1905.

QUEENSLAND.

REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN ON AGRICULTURAL AND PASTORAL STATISTICS FOR 1904.

LIVE STOCK.

Except as to a comparatively limited area in the North-western portion of the State, the climatic conditions obtaining during 1904 were most satisfactory for pastoralists—herbage was abundant and water plentiful. Unfortunately, these very circumstances at the same time conduced to a rapid increase in the number of rabbits, which, materially reduced during the late drought, have, under more happy conditions, amply illustrated their proverbial fecundity, and have already assumed such proportions as to threaten not only the South-western areas, but extending northerly to the Gulf waters, and almost to the Gulf itself, are now advancing easterly and enveloping the whole of the Western portion of the State.

I published an advance estimate of the number of cattle and sheep on the 3rd April last. The fact that in many cases stock on agistment are not so described in returns, and as being only temporarily depastured, is always a disturbing factor when framing such advance estimates; this applies more to sheep than cattle. If the fact as to agistment was stated on the returns much closer estimates could be framed. My preliminary statement of the number of cattle approached the actual figures very closely; but, for the reasons given, I over-estimated the sheep by nearly 350,000.

All kinds of live stock showed substantial increases in 1904, amounting in the case of sheep to nearly two and a-half millions. The actual figures for the last two years are given in the following table:—

A.

Year.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
1903	401,984	2,481,717	8,392,044	117,553
1904	413,165	2,722,340	10,843,470	185,141
Numerical Increase in 1904	11,181	240,623	2,451,426	67,588
Numerical Decrease in 1904	...	...	...	...
Centesimal Increase in 1904	2·78	9·70	29·21	57·50
Centesimal Decrease in 1904	...	...	...	...

It will be seen that the increase of horses in 1904 numbered 11,181, or 2·78 per cent. on the figures for 1903. Cattle increased numerically by 240,623 and proportionately by 9·70 per cent., the like figures for sheep and pigs being 2,451,426 and 29·21 per cent., and 67,588 and 57·50 per cent. each respectively.

At the end of 1904 the numbers of each variety of live stock in Queensland were:—Horses, 413,165; cattle, 2,722,340; sheep, 10,843,470; and pigs, 185,141.

A comparison of the numbers in the State at the end of each of the past ten years shows that, notwithstanding the good progress made last year, the figures for 1904 fall far short of those for the earlier years of the decade.

A a.

SHOWING the NUMBER of HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, and PIGS in the STATE—RETURN for TEN YEARS.

Year.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
1895	468,743	6,822,401	19,856,959	100,747
1896	452,207	6,507,377	19,593,696	97,434
1897	479,280	6,089,013	17,797,883	110,855
1898	480,469	5,571,292	17,552,608	127,081
1899	479,127	5,053,836	15,226,479	139,118
1900	456,788	4,078,191	10,339,185	122,187
1901	462,119	3,772,707	10,030,971	121,641
1902	399,122	2,543,471	7,213,985	77,202
1903	401,984	2,481,717	8,392,044	117,553
1904	413,165	2,722,340	10,843,470	185,141

Horses numbered 468,743 in 1895, or 55,578 more than in 1904. Cattle fell from 6,822,401 to 2,481,717 in 1903, increasing last year so as to exceed the figures for 1902 and 1903, but still more than 1,000,000 short of the record for 1901. Sheep, which numbered 21,708,310 in 1892, decreased year by year for ten years, until in 1902 they were reduced to 7,213,985, the past two years witnessing a substantial recovery, the figures for 1904 exceeding those for any year since 1899, as during the following year—1900—practically 5,000,000 sheep were wiped from the records as a consequence of the unprecedented drought which was then making itself manifest.

The following table furnishes the ratio of increase and decrease for each of the last ten years:—

Ab.

Year.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
1895	5·55	— 2·72	1·37	12·34
1896	— 3·53	— 4·63	— 1·33	— 3·29
1897	5·99	— 6·43	— 9·17	13·77
1898	0·25	— 8·50	— 1·38	14·64
1899	— 0·28	— 9·29	— 13·25	9·47
1900	— 4·66	— 19·31	— 32·10	— 12·17
1901	1·17	— 7·49	— 2·98	— 0·45
1902	— 13·63	— 32·58	— 28·08	— 36·53
1903	0·72	— 2·43	16·33	52·27
1904	2·78	9·70	29·21	57·50

— Decrease.

It will be seen that 1904 was the only year of the decade in which there was any increase in the number of cattle, and the increment, moreover, amounted to 10 per cent. With respect to sheep, the minus sign is not so much in evidence, 1895, 1903, and 1904 all showing increases. The decreases in two out of the other seven years—namely, that of 32 per cent. in 1900 and of 28 per cent. in 1902—were so disastrous that the very satisfactory increase for 1904 proves quite inadequate to the reinstatement of our flocks to their former numerical position.

The climate of Queensland is well adapted to the breeding and rearing of horses, partaking in so many respects of that animal's natural habitat. Experts on this subject, perhaps more even than on most others, join issue as to the best means of securing with reasonable certainty the production of serviceable horses. In any case, whether from this cause or not, the class of animal found on our pastures does not admit of the selection of any considerable number meeting the requirements of export. Under the pressure of the demand for active service in South Africa, and now in Eastern Asia, a considerable market of a temporary character has been created; but in times of peace the average Queensland horse does not meet the demands of the remount agent.

Provision was made when collecting stock returns this year to obtain a record of the number of stallions in the State, but the schedules were filled in by many owners in such a ridiculous manner that the compilation for this year at least was worthless; perhaps better results may attend next year's effort, and the information required be ascertained with some measure of accuracy.

The imports and exports of horses during 1904 were as follow:—

Ac.

HORSES IMPORTED DURING 1904.

—	Number.		Value.	
			£	£
Oversea—				
New South Wales	145	...	11,139	
Victoria	14	...	989	
New Zealand	2	...	126	
		161		12,254
Interstate—				
New South Wales	...	462	...	6,937
South Australia	...	1,639	...	11,513
Total	...	2,262	...	30,704

HORSES EXPORTED during 1904.

Oversea—				
United Kingdom	24	...	450	
Cape Colony	336	...	3,360	
Hong Kong	1	...	30	
India	3,317	...	37,730	
British New Guinea	17	...	187	
Mauritius	1,207	...	7,786	
German New Guinea	1	...	25	
Philippine Islands	9	...	142	
Japan	3	...	120	
		4,915		49,830
Interstate—				
New South Wales	...	7,361	...	84,426
South Australia	...	2,825	...	23,574
Total	...	15,101	...	157,830

The interstate exchange represents a sum of some £78,000 in favour of Queensland, the trade consisting largely of racehorses journeying either way, and of drovers' mounts and plant travelling with live stock, chiefly cattle, the bulk of which consists of export, as, on the drover reaching his destination, he usually sells off and returns north by steamer. The higher average value per head of imports being no doubt caused by the presence of a few high-priced animals imported for stud purposes, probably mostly from "oversea."

Reverting to oversea export, which has the most significance, 4,915 horses were sent away, of a value of £49,830, equal to nearly £10 3s. per head. There were a few less so exported in the preceding year—namely, 4,004, of a value of £43,711, equal to £10 18s. per head. From reports furnished in the public Press it would appear probable that the exports for the current year will be in excess of those for 1904.

The extent to which the area of Queensland is utilised for grazing, together with the ratio of live stock to the population, is shown in the following table:—

A d.

IN CONVERTING HORSES AND CATTLE TO TERMS OF SHEEP, TEN HEAD OF SHEEP ARE TAKEN AS EQUAL TO ONE HORSE OR HEAD OF CATTLE.

——	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	All kinds in terms of Sheep.	Pigs.	All kinds, including Pigs, in terms of Sheep.
Per Square Mile	0·62	4·07	16·22	63·12	...	...
Per Capita of Population	0·79	5·22	20·79	80·89	0·35	81·25

The larger variety of animals are in the fifth column of the table taken as each equivalent to ten of smaller kinds, not as, perhaps, exactly representing, either in grazing capacity or value for consumption, that ratio, but that proportion is sufficiently near to justify its use as a matter of convenience in conversion. Thus it will be seen that there were in Queensland in 1904 the equivalent of sixty-three sheep to each square mile of area, and of eighty-one sheep to each head of population.

DISTRIBUTION OF STOCK.

Table Nos. 1 and 2 in the Appendix give full information as to the live stock depastured in each petty sessions district and each pastoral district respectively. The petty sessions districts were altered to some extent in 1904, some new districts being proclaimed and the boundaries of others adjusted; and as Table No. 1 compares the figures relating to cattle and sheep for 1903 and 1904 in several instances the districts have had to be grouped.

The Kennedy, Port Curtis, and Darling Downs pastoral districts comprise the chief centres for the breeding of horses. Petty sessions districts, in which the numbers depastured during 1904 exceeded 10,000, being all within, or in the vicinity of, the pastoral districts mentioned, namely:—Rockhampton, 20,196; Mackay, 16,790; Charters Towers, 13,964; Toowoomba, 13,151; Gladstone, 10,667; and Bowen, 10,048.

With respect to cattle in five districts the number returned exceeded 100,000. Of these, all except Rockhampton, where 104,331 were depastured, are districts within the Gulf of Carpentaria waters, and mostly in the far North-western portion of the State:—Norman, 210,186; Burke, 108,593; Cloncurry, 106,988; and Etheridge, 106,372.

The sheep naturally are not so widely distributed as either horses or cattle. Last year in nine petty sessions districts there were no sheep depastured, and in forty districts the numbers were less than 1,000. In five of the twenty-nine districts in which the sheep depastured exceeded 100,000 there were upwards of 500,000; they were:—Longreach, 949,597; Winton, 839,160; Muttaburra, 806,248; Cunnamulla, 785,993; and Richmond, 516,363.

Attention has already been drawn to the large increase in the number of pigs returned last year, notwithstanding that many more were put to profit than in any previous year. For many years chiefly confined to the coastal districts they are now kept from one end of Queensland to the other, only one district failing to return any. Toowoomba, with 15,203, was the only district where the numbers reached to five figures.

The 2,722,340 head of cattle in the State were held by 24,615 owners, of whom 22,409, or 91 per cent., had mobs of 100 head or under; 1,209 persons owned 216,530 cattle in herds numbering from 100 to 300 each, giving an average of 179 head to each owner. Of the remainder of the cattle, numbering 2,067,598, or 76 per cent. of the total number, were the property of 997 persons, held in herds exceeding 300. Fuller particulars are contained in the following table:—

A e.

SIZES OF HERDS OF CATTLE.

Petty Sessions District.	1 to 100.		101 to 300.		301 and upwards.		Totals.	
	Owners.	Cattle.	Owners.	Cattle.	Owners.	Cattle.	Owners.	Cattle.
Boulia	8	216	3	682	16	75,164	27	76,062
Burke	9	430	3	836	19	107,327	31	108,593
Charters Towers ...	275	5,161	15	2,580	26	76,517	316	84,258
Cloncurry	36	1,123	4	759	14	105,106	54	106,988
Etheridge	47	1,718	14	2,674	21	101,980	82	106,372
Gladstone	295	6,111	32	5,813	55	64,854	382	76,778
Norman	16	612	1	130	27	209,444	44	210,186
Rockhampton	746	15,393	87	15,531	64	73,407	897	104,331
A other Districts ...	20,977	407,448	1,050	187,525	755	1,253,799	22,782	1,848,772
Totals	22,409	438,212	1,209	216,530	997	2,067,598	24,615	2,722,340

The average number of cattle to each owner in 1904 was 111, and for each of the four preceding years—105 in 1903, 104 in 1902, 147 in 1901, and 162 in 1900.

At one time sheep were depastured in Queensland under conditions which, whilst lending themselves in normal seasons to economy of working, and, therefore, to great profit, yet in times of drought increased the difficulties of adopting measures necessary to prevent heavy loss. Enormous numbers were located on one holding under one management. These conditions have in recent years been greatly modified, and the average number of sheep to each holding has decreased. Last year there was an average of 5,441 sheep to each holding. Further particulars on this point are furnished in the following table:—

A f.

SIZES of FLOCKS of SHEEP.

Petty Sessions District.	50 and under.		51 to 1,000.		1,001 to 5,000.		5,001 to 20,000.		20,001 and upwards.		Totals.	
	Owners.	Sheep.	Owners.	Sheep.	Owners.	Sheep.	Owners.	Sheep.	Owners.	Sheep.	Owners.	Sheep.
Adavale	...	...	...	...	3	11,500	2	26,005	4	308,534	9	346,039
Aramac	1	15	3	1,463	7	20,964	1	7,366	3	94,178	15	123,986
Augathella	5	61	2	440	3	6,000	2	17,859	2	127,023	14	151,383
Barcaldine	5	17	17	8,159	8	21,949	10	89,319	7	374,713	47	494,157
Blackall	3	79	4	1,285	10	28,702	8	80,479	7	335,022	32	445,567
Bollon	4	67	4	1,354	7	18,350	7	80,234	7	243,103	29	343,108
Charleville	13	281	9	3,564	8	22,440	7	61,307	4	139,675	41	227,267
Clermont	19	363	13	3,689	4	11,378	4	47,380	5	220,970	45	283,780
Cloncurry	8	95	1	85	1	5,000	1	6,986	5	230,184	16	242,350
Cunnamulla	1	40	5	2,583	53	155,369	15	147,621	8	480,380	82	785,993
Dalby	17	382	98	44,624	44	104,605	6	71,842	5	218,001	170	439,454
Eulo	1	6	2	1,350	4	11,983	7	57,030	2	60,266	16	130,635
Goondiwindi ...	4	79	12	6,861	12	32,497	6	57,040	3	134,615	37	231,092
Hughenden	2	17	5	3,370	7	14,013	13	126,817	4	130,337	31	274,554
Inglewood	5	99	16	4,738	4	13,653	3	34,745	2	53,552	30	106,787
Isisford	5	99	6	2,929	4	13,344	1	9,000	6	343,572	22	368,944
Jundah	3	59	1	750	6	14,193	2	23,001	2	125,887	14	163,890
Longreach	6	127	15	9,661	21	59,589	22	222,548	10	657,672	74	949,597
Muttaburra	1	1	2	894	7	21,873	16	159,430	13	624,050	39	806,248
Richmond	...	...	7	2,960	11	32,727	17	172,605	6	308,071	41	516,363
Roma	23	613	20	10,336	10	23,309	5	38,350	4	123,526	62	196,134
St. George	8	91	8	2,128	15	55,014	8	85,534	6	229,904	45	372,671
Springsure	8	165	5	2,537	7	19,707	1	16,700	3	92,072	24	131,181
Surat	3	80	15	9,030	17	40,826	4	36,350	3	124,685	42	210,971
Tambo	1	3	4	2,017	3	4,780	10	118,385	3	147,291	21	272,476
Thargomindah ...	2	50	1	134	1	1,500	5	73,800	2	48,000	11	123,484
Toowoomba	20	451	114	50,211	36	87,944	10	97,483	5	220,024	185	456,113
Warwick	19	497	59	21,427	11	29,809	5	44,632	1	33,600	95	129,965
Winton	9	191	4	440	4	14,474	11	97,543	12	726,512	40	839,160
All other Districts	316	6,456	260	69,763	59	123,613	22	263,334	7	216,955	664	680,121
Totals	512	10,484	712	268,782	387	1,021,105	231	2,370,725	151	7,172,374	1,993	10,843,470

It is now being generally recognised that even in Queensland the methods adopted at home may be very profitably pursued, and farmers in increasing numbers are combining the grazing of comparatively few sheep along with general agricultural operations, and the opportunities now opening for the disposal of frozen sheep and lambs by export will still further extend this tendency.

It will be seen from the above table, that, passing owners of sheep in flocks of fifty or under, 712 persons returned 268,782 sheep, in flocks between 51 and 1,000; 387 persons held 1,021,105 sheep, with not less than 1,001 nor more than 5,000 to each; 231 persons 2,370,725 head, or 22 per cent. of all sheep in flocks between 5,001 and 20,000; whilst 7,172,374, or 66 per cent. of the total, were returned by 151 persons only.

The Darling Downs, at one time occupied as large sheep-walks, grazing sheep in enormous numbers, the property of a very few wealthy proprietors, are now the centre of a large number of small sheep farmers, who in their operations are giving effect to the changing conditions to which I have already referred. During the past ten years the average size of flocks in the State have reduced from 12,130 in 1895 to 5,441 last year.

A g.

Year.	No. of Owners.	No. of Sheep.	Average Size of Flocks.
1895	1,637	19,856,959	12,130
1896	1,664	19,593,696	11,775
1897	1,793	17,797,883	9,926
1898	1,835	17,552,608	9,565
1899	1,897	15,226,479	8,027
1900	1,950	10,339,185	5,302
1901	2,018	10,030,971	4,970
1902	2,052	7,213,985	3,516
1903	1,914	8,392,044	4,385
1904	1,993	10,843,470	5,441

The smallest average was 3,516 in 1902, followed by 4,385 in the following year. The drought, covering the period 1900-3 by devastating the large holdings, reduced the averages for those years below normal.

It must, however, be borne in mind that the decreases of live stock in unfavourable seasons are augmented, and in favourable years the increases are reduced, by the large numbers put to profit by export, either alive or in a frozen or preserved condition, and in addition the needs of the population for

animal food are also met. The imports and exports of cattle and sheep for each of the last ten years were as follow:—

A h.

Year.	Horned Cattle.		Sheep.	
	Inwards.	Outwards.	Inwards.	Outwards.
	Number.	Number.	Number.	Number.
1895	5,590	80,620	186,007	295,032
1896	10,127	272,622	94,620	899,720
1897	13,197	176,329	289,768	1,114,270
1898	13,867	194,648	158,843	641,177
1899	16,972	205,243	200,523	463,276
1900	9,370	69,979	103,967	487,934
1901	32,439	74,066	297,628	277,738
1902	11,593	35,299	193,243	140,030
1903	56,175	78,988	272,948	277,725
1904	41,086	139,745	94,117	294,496

It will thus be seen that in 1904 practically 100,000 cattle and 200,000 sheep were sent alive out of the State in excess of those imported, and that during the ten years, shown in the table, no less than 1,117,123 cattle and 2,999,734 sheep have had to be provided for from the natural increase for this method of disposal alone.

The numbers of cattle and sheep utilised during the last two years are shown in the following table:—

A i.

—	Cattle.		Sheep.	
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.
Preserved, frozen, and boiled down	125,414	70,753	115,426	101,034
Exported, less number imported	22,813	98,659	4,777	200,379
Estimated number killed for food for home consumption*	141,891	143,002	350,291	310,413
Totals put to profit	290,118	312,414	470,494	611,826

* N.B.—Based on estimated population of State.

Thus in 1904 no less than 312,414 head of cattle and 611,826 sheep were put to profit, and consequently these must be considered as a portion of the live stock production for the year, in addition to the increased numbers depastured returned at the end, when compared with those at the beginning of the year. Of the 312,414 cattle, 98,659 were exported alive in excess of those imported; 70,753 were shipped in the form of meat; and 143,002 were consumed for food within the State. There were 200,379 more sheep exported alive than were imported, besides 101,034 in the form of mutton, either frozen or preserved, and 310,413 were consumed for domestic use.

During 1904 there were seventeen establishments engaged in preserving meat of all kinds, chiefly for export. Their operations also, of course, included the slaughter of the necessary live stock. A summary of the capital engaged in the industry, and of the value of the output is shown in the following table:—

A k.

No. of Establishments.	Kind of Establishments.	No. of Hands Employed.	Value of Machinery and Plant.	Value of Land and Premises.	Value of Output.
			£	£	£
6	Bacon Curing...	154	45,645	7,340	112,998
11	Meat Preserving	905	265,058	361,750	937,862
17		1,059	310,703	379,090	1,050,860

Six of the factories were engaged in the slaughter of hogs only, the value of the output of this branch comprising rather more than 10 per cent. of the total. Last year there were 1,059 hands employed in the seventeen establishments, the total capital engaged amounted to £689,793, and the value of the output was £1,050,860.

Fuller details respecting the information furnished in the foregoing summary appear in Appendix Table No. 3, to be found at the end of this report.

There were 70,753 cattle and 101,034 sheep and 106,633 pigs slaughtered, chiefly for export, as a food product in 1904, as against 125,414 cattle, 115,426 sheep, and 54,712 pigs in 1903. Except as to pigs these figures do not include those slaughtered by farmers and others for domestic use, these being referred to later on.

Cattle.—Of the 70,753 cattle slaughtered, the carcasses of 51,108 were frozen, 19,066 were preserved, and 579 were boiled down. From those frozen 36,514,333 lb. of meat were obtained, whilst the quantity preserved fresh was 10,227,433 lb., and 400,237 lb. were salted, being but little more than half the quantity turned out the previous year.

These figures give 714 lb. to each beast of those slaughtered for freezing, and 557 lb. to each head of those preserved fresh or salted. The corresponding weights in 1903 were 614 lb. and 610 lb. respectively, thus showing a substantial increase in the weight of cattle slaughtered for freezing and a decline in weight of those preserved.

The returns showing the number allotted to each method of treatment are not always quite reliable, as at times choice portions of beasts slaughtered for preserving find their way to the freezing chamber, adding weight to the frozen at the cost of the preserved.

The average weight of all cattle slaughtered in these factories was 613 lb. in 1903 and 672 lb. in 1904, an increase of 59 lb. per head in the latter year.

To the credit of cattle killed for preserving must be added the weight of essence and extract made. There was only about half as much of this in 1904 as in 1903—namely, 59,091 lb. in the former and 100,720 lb. in the latter year. Tallow is also a product of preserving rather than of freezing; the output for the last two years was 4,290 tons in 1904, and 3,661 tons in 1903, further illustrating the improved class of beast in the market during the year first mentioned.

SHEEP.—There were 90,828 sheep slaughtered for freezing in 1904, against 102,007 in 1903, a decrease of 11,179; 4,598,825 lb. of mutton were frozen in the former and 4,906,991 lb. in the latter year, a decrease of 308,166 lb., the average weight of each sheep being 51 lb. in 1904 and 48 lb. in 1903.

For preserving, 10,206 sheep were killed last year, and 13,309 the previous year, a decrease of 3,103. In 1904 there was an output of 470,645 lb. of preserved mutton, against 498,416 lb. in 1903, a decrease of 27,771 lb., the weight of each sheep slaughtered for preserving being 46 lb. in 1904 and 37 lb. in 1903. The average weight of all sheep slaughtered in each of the two years was 50 lb. in 1904 and 47 lb. in 1903. The great difficulty with regard to export of meat from Queensland is the want of continuity in supply. A market won with much difficulty is lost perhaps the following year, owing to the want of stock to supply it. Our chief competitors—New Zealand and Argentine—are not thus handicapped. The lastnamed has greatly increased its export of meat to Great Britain, driven thereto by the stoppage of the live stock trade in consequence of the existence of foot and mouth disease. Both countries maintain such a standard with regards to evenness and quality as well as the continuity of supply as to be most difficult to displace from any market. In 1903, New Zealand sent about 4,500,000 sheep and lambs, and Argentine 1,500,000 to Great Britain. Queensland sheep have at present too much of the merino type to be a good carcase animal. The live stock exports from the United States and Canada, which furnish about one-half the foreign meat supply of Great Britain, have also to be reckoned with.

Continental Europe is practically closed as a market, in consequence of the extreme demands as to shipment to enable the very rigid requirements for inspection on arrival to be complied with.

HOGS.—There were 106,633 pigs killed at the various preserving factories and by farmers during 1904, besides 27,852 returned by inspectors as slaughtered, chiefly by butchers for fresh pork only, making in all 134,485 hogs slaughtered for food during the year. As there were 117,553 pigs only in the State at the commencement and 185,141 at the end of 1904, some idea may be formed as to the prolific character of this animal, the increase for the year thus being 202,073, or 172 per cent. of the number on 1st January of that year. The metropolitan district is the principal site of the ham and bacon industry, 80,964 pigs, or 76 per cent., of the total number required for that purpose were slaughtered within that area. Full details as to the number killed, exclusive of those killed by butchers, and their disposal is given in the following table:—

A 1.

Petty Sessions District.	Hogs Slaughtered.	Fresh Pork.	Salt Pork.	Bacon and Hams.
	Number.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Allora	251	3,180	1,322	28,218
Beaudesert	399	240	7,250	41,556
Biggenden	223	100	2,302	22,865
Brisbane	73,922	1,132,802	6,330	4,201,437
Bundaberg	1,063	16,430	17,490	60,140
Childers	457	3,358	5,750	35,738
Clifton	337	22,789	...	22,789
Crow's Nest	367	56	170	47,713
Dalby	377	1,410	1,520	41,978
Dugandan	405	2,394	40,797	14,610
Gatton	4,258	821	6,836	501,496
Gin Gin	378	3,374	16,960	10,275
Gympie	530	13,763	2,893	33,071
Harrisville	570	2,085	8,640	50,677
Herberton	200	9,078	7,150	1,370
Highfields	513	259	339	73,720
Ipswich	386	16,701	8,192	17,873
Killarney	284	127	2,416	30,482
Laidley	438	5,978	19,924	39,299
Logan	696	22,397	51,602	32,553
Mackay	666	7,271	24,228	31,586
Marburg	359	2,245	11,875	44,958
Maroochy	540	2,855	13,265	43,342
Maryborough	651	16,953	12,750	33,490
Nanango	609	1,088	3,002	61,803
Nerang	214	190	1,040	25,455
Rockhampton	3,790	207,547	7,458	116,998
Roma	341	2,504	4,070	33,177
Rosewood	254	588	6,622	21,901
Somerset	251	3,940	...	...
South Brisbane	7,042	148,271	1,546	387,504
Tiaro	447	8,252	11,692	23,494
Toowoomba	1,138	9,728	8,430	107,763
Warwick	1,095	1,435	2,175	132,595
Other Districts	3,182	83,027	62,375	142,926
Total, 1904	106,633	1,753,236	378,411	6,514,852
,, 1903	54,712	408,734	531,755	4,145,900

N.B.—Returns received from Inspectors of Slaughter-houses for 1904 account for 27,852 pigs killed, producing 2,347,288 lb. of fresh pork in addition to the above. In a few instances it is possible that some of these have been also included in the returns from which this able is compiled, but to what extent it is impossible to determin .

It will be seen that almost twice as many pigs were killed in 1904 as in 1903, and whilst the increase in output of hams and bacon is an important one—namely, from 4,145,900 lb. in the latter to 6,514,852 lb. in the former year—yet the greatest relative increase has been in fresh pork. This is chiefly due to pigs now being numbered amongst meat frozen for export, 13,772 carcasses being included amongst the shipments for last year.

HOME CONSUMPTION OF MEAT.

This comprises the produce of live stock slaughtered by butchers, farmers, graziers, &c., for consumption within the State as distinct from export. The use of tinned provisions, the output of factories, has in recent years greatly increased in Queensland, and this should properly be included, but the extent of its use is not readily if indeed possibly returnable.

The number and weight of live stock slaughtered for domestic use is kindly furnished by officers of the Stock Department.

The consumption of meat per capita throughout all Australia is high, but in Queensland, partly on account of its comparatively low price, but mostly owing to the protracted warm weather, causing an undue proportion of waste, the quantity of domestic consumption per head, which must not be taken to mean actually eaten, is higher than elsewhere.

It is worthy of note that the weight per capita varies with good or bad seasons, following the effect of prosperous times or otherwise very closely, the quantities allotted to each inhabitant being, during each of the last five years, as follow:—1900, 268 lb.; 1901, 247 lb.; 1902, 198 lb.; 1903, 189 lb.; 1904, 208 lb. It will be noticed that the lowest figures are those of 1902 and 1903, the last years of the severe drought, when meat was scarce, lean, and prices high.

In no case has any allowance been made for suet, waste fat, &c., although during 1904, when the beasts slaughtered were in unusually good condition, the quantity of those products would, if taken into account, materially reduce the nominal consumption of that year.

Full particulars respecting each of the last five years will be found in Table IV. of the Appendix.

BY-PRODUCTS.

Full particulars as to the output and value of by-products of the meat-preserving industry are furnished in Table No. V. in the Appendix. Twelve, and these the most important, out of the seventeen establishments engaged preserve and record these very valuable adjuncts to their business. The aggregate value of all the by-products as returned was, for 1904, £145,852.

"MEAT AND DAIRY PRODUCE ENCOURAGEMENT ACT."

Under this statute thirteen factories are still under advances from the Government, and their financial position with respect thereto is as follows:—

MEAT AND DAIRY PRODUCE ENCOURAGEMENT ACT."

Number of works to which advances have been made			13
	£	*s.*	*d.*
Amount advanced to 31st December, 1904	100,437	5	0
Indebtedness (including interest on 31st December, 1904)	70,003	19	1
Number of works in operation under Act on 31st December, 1904			10
	£	*s.*	*d.*
Amount advanced on the said works	95,305	0	0
Balance owing on the said works on 31st December, 1904	68,317	12	6
Interest accrued but not due to 31st December, 1904	199	6	0
Interest due by three companies but not yet paid	1,487	0	7

WOOL.

The export of wool has hitherto been taken as the measure of the production, as the advantages of collecting information relating to the latter from other sources were not considered commensurate with the difficulties of doing so. In past years the Customs authorities collected data both as to quantity and value; and the wool used within the State, being extremely limited, the export figures were reliable as representing the production. Last year it was only possible with respect to exports to obtain values for that despatched to other States of Australia, though both values and quantities were supplied for that carried oversea. As a large amount of Queensland production is sent to Europe through New South Wales and Victoria the effect that the new method will have on statistics of our trade will be readily understood. The following table contains information as to the export of wool for the past two years. For 1904 the quantities have been estimated on the basis of a *pro rata* addition for interstate trade in accordance with its value:—

Am.

Exports.	Quantity.			Value.		
	Interstate.	Oversea.	Total.	Interstate.	Oversea.	Total.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	£	£	£
Wool (scoured)	*8,627,011	9,968,548	18,595,559	577,373	667,157	1,244,530
Wool (greasy)	*10,873,338	17,787,847	28,661,185	393,182	643,312	1,036,394
Total, 1904	19,500,349	27 756,395	47,256,744	970,555	1,310,369	2,280,924
Total, 1903	11,664,988	23,314,088	34,979,076	637,457	1,246,295	1,883,752
Increase, 1904	7,835,361	4,442,307	12,277,668	333,098	64,074	397,172
Decrease, 1904	...	...	...	...	...	...

* Estimated.

The wool exported and, therefore, produced, for it was practically all Queensland grown, in 1904 exceeded that for 1903 by 35 per cent. as to quantity and by 21 per cent. as to value, the export of wool in the grease preponderating in 1904. The export values per lb., as declared to the Customs, in 1903 and 1904 were practically the same for each year. The greatest variation was in scoured wool, which dropped about ½d. per lb. last year. The actual values were:—1903, scoured, 16½d. per lb.; in grease, 8½d. per lb.; 1904, scoured, 16⅛d. per lb.; in grease, 8⅝d. per lb. There was a slight decrease in the quantity of scoured wool exported in 1904, the substantial increase being all of unscoured wool. The export prices of wool for each of the last five years have been as follow:—

A n.

—	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Greasy wool (average)	8¼d. per lb.	7¾d. per lb.	8d. per lb.	8½d. per lb.	8⅝d. per lb.
Clean „ „	15¾d. „	13¾d. „	14¼d. „	16½d. „	16⅛d. „

Advices received by cable from London notify substantial advances in prices realised for wool at the recent sales, which, combined with the prospects of increased production, is news of a most gratifying character.

The quantity of wool used in Queensland is insignificant, as will be seen from the following statement:—

A o.

—	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Wool used in manufacture	192,000	175,000	156,000	109,646	84,117	92,901

There was a slight increase in 1904 over the figures of the previous year, otherwise the extent to which wool has been utilised locally has declined regularly since 1899, the first year of record.

EXPORT OF QUEENSLAND PRODUCTS.

As it is convenient to show the export of products of all kinds in a common summary, the report on the pastoral interests, that industry being the most important contributor, seems a suitable place for its inclusion.

The relative importance of the three principal interests of the State is shown in the following table:—

A p.

—	1903.		1904.	
	—	Percentage, Total Exports (Home Produce).	—	Percentage, Total Exports (Home Produce).
	£		£	
Agricultural	956,275	10·52	2,019,049	18·60
Pastoral	4,221,780	46·46	4,842,407	44·62
Mineral	3,498,930	38·50	3,404,772	31·37
Other	410,889	4·52	587,708	5·41
	£9,087,874	100·00	£10,853,936	100·00

The great advance made in agriculture is well illustrated; providing only 11 per cent. of the total in 1903, the ratio rose to 19 per cent. last year. Details will be furnished respecting this in the general report. Pastoral products contributed 46 per cent. of the total exports of home production in 1903, and 45 per cent. in 1904, the value represented being £4,221,780 and £4,842,407 respectively.

Details as to the chief items of export last year are furnished in the following table:—

A q.

—	1903.	1904.	Increase or — Decrease, 1904.
	£	£	£
Pastoral—			
Wool	1,867,674	2,280,924	413,250
Live stock	917,478	1,404,419	486,941
*Meat (all kinds, including Extract)	941,975	656,722	— 285,253
Tallow	119,997	183,372	63,375
Hides and skins	297,881	242,919	— 54,962
All other	76,775	74,051	— 2,724

* Exclusive of Bacon, Poultry, &c., these being treated as products of Agriculture.

The export of pastoral products increased by £620,627 in 1904, live stock increasing by £486,941, wool by £413,250, and tallow by £63,375, decreases of meat, £285,253; hides and skins, £54,962; and "other products," £2,724, cancelling some of the excess of the three first-named items.

ANGORA GOATS.

The collection of statistical data respecting the production of mohair, commenced in 1903, was continued last year. On this occasion the collection was undertaken by the police instead of by circular to the owners, with the result that somewhat more complete information has been obtained. It would

appear that the number of pure-bred Angora goats in Queensland is very limited. The exact number of these has not been ascertainable, but of these and grade animals there were some 2,000 returned from thirty-three owners, of whom eight only sold mohair. The total weight of this commodity returned was 1,216 lb., of which about 1,000 lb. was sold at prices ranging from 3d. to 2s. 6d. This great variation in price is very significant as to the quality of some of the animals returned. The maximum figure given is about double the usual price for good mohair in London, and must have proved most satisfactory to the proprietors. One owner owning a number of animals did not shear, but killed for meat, and drew his profit from the sale of the skins, which would no doubt realise a good price for mats. The industry is evidently still in its infancy, and several owners of choice herds have up to the present derived their profit largely from the sale of animals to others; the number of such sales recorded is sufficient to afford hope of a moderate expansion of the industry.

DAIRYING, ETC.

No section of the agricultural industry has manifested such progress as that of dairying. The outlet afforded to the products of the cow by the possibility of export to Europe at once placed the dairy farmer on a different footing. Provided a first-class article only is purveyed, limitation as to the quantity capable of being disposed of is indefinitely postponed. Great Britain alone offers a wide field for consumption, 70 per cent. having to be provided from without, of which Denmark contributes by far the largest proportion.

A want of evenness in the quality of butter is one of the most pronounced evils with which the exporting producer has to contend, and this in turn is chiefly due to a like condition existing with regard to cream supplied to factories for conversion into butter.

The importance assumed by dairy produce as an article of export could not be ignored, and it became apparent that without an authoritative control of the conditions under which the industry was carried on, the hold being rapidly secured of fresh outlets would be lost, owing to the selfishness of a few who, regardless of consequences, would try and force an inferior article on the export markets. Such a control could only be obtained by legislative enactment, and, after consideration at a general Agricultural Conference, a carefully drafted Bill was presented as a Government measure to Parliament, and passed on the 17th December, 1904, as "*The Dairy Produce Act of* 1904" (IV. Edw. VII., No. 18).

This statute provides for the registration of all butter factories, creameries, and dairies handling produce for sale, also of all retailers of milk, and further provides that persons acting as testers of milk and cream at such places shall obtain certificates of competency after examination. Provision is made for inspection by Government officers of all such premises as to their suitability and condition, and of persons employed or residing thereon as to their health and cleanliness, and of cattle milked, as to health and condition. The milking of the cows in the dairy and the handling of the produce, both in the dairy and at the factory, is to be rigidly supervised, whilst Government experts will undertake the grading and stamping of all produce intended for export. Provision is made for charging fees to recoup in part at least the cost of registration and inspection.

On comparing the figures of 1904 with those for the previous year, it is seen that the output of butter was one and a-half times greater in the former than in the latter year, having advanced from 7,717,325 lb. in 1903 to 17,538,473 lb. in 1904. Full particulars respecting the dairying industry for 1904 are furnished in the following table:—

B.

RETURN of BUTTER and CHEESE FACTORIES and the RESULTS OBTAINED therefrom during the Year 1904; also PRODUCTION by PRIVATE MAKERS.

DISTRICT.	ESTABLISHMENTS HANDLING		MILK, CREAM, AND BUTTER.					CHEESE.		
					BUTTER MADE.					
	Cream Only.	Cream and Butter.	*Milk dealt with.	*Cream Produced.	At Central Factories.	By Farmers.	Total.	Producers.	Milk Dealt with.	Cheese.
			Gallons.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.		Gallons.	Lb.
Allora	57	105	1,039,754	759,885	...	42,157	42,157	...	...	...
Beaudesert	49	282	2,566,551	2,064,862	432,725	75,543	508,268	...	...	...
Brisbane	82	79	608,594	412,603	3,051,769	71,012	3,122,781	1	558,583	516,494
Bundaberg	38	267	890,559	630,348	254,108	100,384	354,492	2	1,460	1,460
Caboolture	58	14	538,868	365,360	...	22,222	22,222	1	2,496	2,496
Clifton	65	8	442,594	414,161	39,390	2,726	42,116	3	75,171	75,942
Crow's Nest	57	207	956,437	761,466	...	29,460	29,460	5	12,834	12,258
Dalby	77	155	586,582	475,557	...	18,184	18,184	...	...	...
Dugandan	133	208	2,133,259	1,947,958	582,815	30,858	613,673	...	...	...
Esk	127	43	1,236,136	861,022	349,127	9,014	358,141	2	2,450	2,310
Gatton	349	208	2,760,360	2,151,526	190,650	29,146	219,796	...	...	...
Gympie	74	114	872,565	624,212	390,817	30,168	420,985	...	...	...
Harrisville	241	15	1,823,576	1,375,172	74,439	6,091	80,530	2	70,500	68,012
Highfields	281	52	1,223,595	1,019,048	...	6,925	6,925	4	113,869	121,675
Ipswich	215	44	1,723,287	1,373,690	3,004,472	15,318	3,019,790	...	...	...
Killarney	6	114	168,517	160,905	...	21,959	21,959	2	106,190	115,676
Laidley	233	11	1,376,445	1,224,026	...	7,967	7,967	...	...	...
Logan	177	153	1,018,451	741,669	...	39,023	39,023	...	...	...
Mackay	4	126	223,757	158,651	19,750	64,163	83,913	...	...	...
Marburg	193	5	2,444,776	1,875,504	735,975	741	736,716	...	...	...
Maroochy	11	173	291,486	244,999	...	48,396	48,396	1	28	28
Maryborough	41	186	814,546	565,491	441,707	64,731	506,438	...	...	...
Nerang	26	142	974,144	776,997	...	34,362	34,362	...	...	...
Redcliffe	176	22	1,193,829	839,528	531,642	28,081	559,723	1	20,000	19,000
Rockhampton	13	217	866,614	523,120	156,875	169,298	326,173	1	840	840
Rosewood	175	35	2,046,044	1,861,697	7,392	24,012	31,404	...	...	...
South Brisbane	17	65	245,636	186,398	1,876,113	51,023	1,927,136	...	...	...
Tiaro	55	134	1,783,497	893,691	559,526	26,953	586,479	4	7,695	4,907
Toowoomba	311	300	2,926,725	2,296,199	2,591,685	63,310	2,654,995	5	1,088,502	1,090,472
Warwick	98	191	1,159,885	909,274	660,777	73,973	734,750	2	502,123	486,212
Woodford	108	25	742,512	597,208	...	5,651	5,651	1	6,300	6,552
All other Districts	113	983	2,557,959	1,647,083	37,377	336,491	373,868	10	85,430	83,141
Total 1904	3,660	4,683	40,237,540	30,739,310	15,989,131	1,549,342	17,538,473	47	2,654,471	2,607,475
Total 1903	2,145	4,327	18,750,604	13,717,841	6,261,049	1,456,276	7,717,325	61	1,394,780	1,479,651
Increase 1904	1,515	356	21,486,936	17,021,469	9,728,082	93,066	9,821,148	...	1,259,691	1,127,824
Decrease 1904	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	...	...

* N.B.—The quantities of milk and cream in any district bear but little relation to the butter made in that district, as much of the milk and cream is conveyed elsewhere than the place of production for manufacture.

In 1904 there were 8,390 establishments engaged in handling dairy products for sale, or 1,857 more than in the previous year. Of 8,343 engaged in butter production, 3,660 were occupied in the extraction of cream only, and 4,683 were for the making of butter, the separation of cream being also carried on at most of them.

The quantity of milk returned as handled during 1904—namely, 40,237,540 gallons—although more than double the volume so returned in 1903, only comprises milk treated for the production of butter, the quantity consumed in its primitive state for domestic purposes not being embraced in the returns. This, if available, would undoubtedly add largely to the total milk production, but is, of course, a question altogether beside that of butter output. The purity of milk supplied for domestic use is, however, a matter of paramount importance to the community, and two recent inventions afford greatly increased facilities for securing this. One, a milking machine, whereby the fluid is conveyed to a closed bucket without exposure to the air; the other, a bottle made from paper, capable of production at such a price as to render its use possible for the conveyance of the milk direct from the farm to the consumer.

The former is worked by a pulsometer pump, is rapid in its action, and is absolutely non-injurious to the animal. The latter is made by dipping the paper in paraffine and then baking it.

It is most difficult to ascertain the number of cows represented by the milk handled for butter, as no average yield of Queensland cows has yet been determined; but, taken at half the capacity of milkers in Great Britain, and probably the average here would not exceed this, 160,000 cows were represented.

In a footnote to the foregoing table, attention is drawn to the obvious fact that there can be no relation between the quantities of cream and butter produced in any one district. The same condition applies, only to a much smaller degree, with regard to the milk and cream. The former does not lend itself to such distant carriage as the latter, and is most frequently dealt with at or near the place of milking. In sixteen districts the milk intended for the production of butter exceeded 1,000,000 gallons. The largest producers were:—Toowoomba, 2,926,725 gallons; Gatton, 2,760,360 gallons; Beaudesert, 2,566,551 gallons; and Marburg, 2,444,776 gallons.

From the 40,237,540 gallons of milk separated in 1904, 30,739,310 lb. of cream were obtained against 13,717,841 lb. in 1903, an increase of 17,021,469 lb. Districts returning upwards of 2,000,000 lb. of cream for the year were:—Toowoomba, 2,296,199 lb.; Gatton, 2,151,526 lb.; and Beaudesert, 2,064,862 lb.

Butter.—Last year 91 per cent. of all butter made was of factory production, an eloquent testimony to the advtanges of machinery, whereby that which was years ago a mere adjunct of the farmer's business, has developed into a most important industry. The quantity of butter made in 1904 was 17,538,473 lb. against 7,717,325 lb. in the preceding year, an increase of 9,821,148 lb. Brisbane, Ipswich, and Toowoomba were the chief centres of production, these three localities returning more than half of the total output.

The average yield obtained on the total production for 1904 was 0·57 lb. of butter to each 1 lb. of cream, the latter being the product of 1·31 gallons of milk; or, expressed in inverted terms, 1 gallon of milk produced 0·76 lb. of cream or 0·40 lb. of butter, and 1 lb. of butter was obtained from 2·50 gallons of milk or 1·75 lb. of cream.

In 1903, the like ratios were 0·56 lb. of butter from 1 lb. of cream, the latter requiring 1·37 gallons of milk to produce it, whilst 1 gallon of milk yielded 0·73 lb. of cream or 0·41 lb. of butter, 1 lb. of butter being obtained from 2·43 gallons of milk and 1·78 lb. of cream.

In all, nineteen creameries have received loans from the Government under the Meat and Dairy Encouragement Act, and eight of these were still working under that statute on the 31st December last.

Further particulars are furnished in the following statement:—

B a.

—	Number.	Amount.
		£ s. d.
Number of works to which advances have been made	19	...
Number of works now in operation	8	...
Amount advanced up to 31st December, 1904	...	1,909 16 2
Amount advanced to works now in operation to 31st December, 1904	...	726 0 0
Indebtedness to State on 31st December, 1904	...	632 15 5
Including interest due, but not paid	...	54 12 6
And interest accrued, but not due	...	32 8 4

From this it will be seen that the financial position of these establishments in this respect are most satisfactory.

The following statement refers to the liabilities of a like character with respect to butter factories which are in an equally satisfactory condition:—

B b.

—	Number.	Amount.
		£ s. d.
Number of factories to which advances have been made	14	...
Number of factories now in operation	8	...
Amount advanced up to 31st December, 1904	...	12,316 12 6
Amount advanced to works now in operation to 31st December, 1904	...	7,357 0 3
Indebtedness to State on 31st December, 1904	...	6,542 13 1
Including interest owing, but not paid	...	11 18 10
And interest accrued, but not yet due	...	495 8 9

Butter Exports.—The change from hand-made to machine-made butter has been of great importance to the local consumer in having resulted in the unfailing supply of a good article at a reasonable price, in place of the uncertainty on both these points which formerly prevailed; but its great

advantage to the State has been in the possibilities thus afforded for providing another staple article of export. The statute just passed will no doubt have a most beneficial effect, as the system of grading provided for, to which reference has already been made, must result in butter of a better and more uniform quality being shipped. The opportunity of direct freightage to London afforded by the Aberdeen line of steamers, which started running nearly two years ago, has been a great assistance, as butter sent coastwise for shipment at Sydney has not only to face the cost of the intermediate transit, but is placed at a disadvantage as regards freight to the United Kingdom, as compared with much of the southern product, and above all, is exposed to the risk of deterioration as a result of the conditions under which the coastwise journey and the consequent handling frequently have to be conducted.

Some modifications in the present methods and terms of shipment will have to be introduced before the conditions can be considered satisfactory, to ensure that butter once chilled is maintained in that condition until delivery at the freezing chambers in the United Kingdom. It is also considered by many competent to form an opinion that the present temperature adopted for the carriage of Australian butter should be much reduced if the delivery of the article, free of all risk of deterioration, is to be insured. This is a question of paramount importance if we are to secure and maintain a hold on the oversea markets, which are inviting such keen competition. The Argentine, with less than half the distance to freight, will prove a competitor requiring the utmost energy and care to successfully oppose.

A shipment of butter sent to England from Rockhampton, *viâ* Brisbane, in March last reached its destination in perfect condition, and realised the top price then ruling—viz., 92s. per cwt., or 10d. per lb. As this was manufactured during hot, muggy weather, and was, owing to transhipment, &c., fully three months in transit, it may fairly be considered that both the butter itself and the packing must have been without fault.

The statement that Queensland pine is unsuitable for butter boxes has been frequently and persistently made, chiefly by interested persons in the southern States, and, although fully refuted, the prejudice thus engendered still arises, notwithstanding the fact that the consignees in England and elsewhere speak of our timber as suitable in every respect, and that orders for material have been placed with our millers for casing southern butter. The important trade that might be done in this direction has certainly been much retarded by wilful misstatements for which trade jealousy is probably to blame.

As the Customs returns for last year supply only the value with respect to the exports to other States, comparisons with previous years as to quantities can only be made by estimating those for 1904. This has been done in the following statement of total exports on the basis of relation between quantity and value of the portion shipped oversea :—

B c.

—	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904
Quantity (lb.)	1,159,255	1,389,250	2,085,998	552,625	1,223,414	*9,436,509
Value	£49,517	£51,729	£86,171	£24,610	£49,804	£345,171

* Quantity of interstate export estimated on the basis of that sent oversea.

A comparison of the figures for the past six years as given shows the enormous expansion in the volume of trade which took place during 1904, exceeding as it did the export of the previous year by nearly eight times.

It is not to be expected that such an abnormal rate of increase can be maintained, but there is little doubt but that the records of the present year will show a large increase even on the figures for 1904.

Cheese.—Although there was during 1904 a large increase in cheese production, the output having nearly doubled during that year, yet the number of establishments making cheese decreased by fourteen, or 23 per cent.—namely, from sixty-one in 1903 to forty-seven in 1904. As good cheese is more readily manufactured on a large than on a small scale this is perhaps a matter for congratulation. A reference to Table B will furnish full information as to the district of production.

It will be seen that there were 1,394,780 gallons of milk handled for this purpose in 1903, from which 1,479,651 lb. of cheese were produced, and 2,654,471 gallons of milk in 1904, from which 2,607,475 lb. of cheese were produced. A relatively larger quantity of milk was required in 1904 as compared with 1903, 1 lb. of cheese being made from 0·94 of a gallon of milk in the former and 1·02 in the latter year, or 1 gallon of milk making 1·06 lb. in 1903 and 0·98 in 1904.

The extent to which this industry has been assisted under the Dairy Encouragement Act and the position of the fund is shown in the following statement, which speaks for itself :—

B d.

—	Number.	Amount.
		£ s. d.
Number of factories to which advances have been made	4	...
Number of factories now in operation	1	...
Amount advanced up to 31st December, 1904	...	1,525 0 0
Amount advanced to works now in operation to 31st December, 1904	...	700 0 0
Indebtedness to State on 31st December, 1904	...	610 3 0
Including interest due, but not paid	...	Nil
And interest accrued, but not due	...	Nil

PRESERVED MILK.

The treating of milk in such a manner that, whilst preserving all its qualities for domestic or therapeutic purposes, it can be kept for an indefinite period, is a question that has involved a large amount of research, and "preserved milk" in several different forms has been an article of commerce for many years. Condensation by the application of heat has been the underlying principle of all methods adopted with success. The aim of manufacturing chemists engaged in investigating this problem of milk

preservation has been to make the condensation complete by the successful evaporation of all moisture, and, although the process had been perfected in the laboratory for many years, the resulting commodity had not until recently been produced commercially. The economic manufacture would appear to have been brought to a successful issue and dried or desiccated milk in the form of a powder is now on the market. It is naturally very portable, will keep for a long period, and, on being mixed with water, becomes reconverted into the article with which we are all familiar.

At present desiccated milk is not an article of manufacture in Queensland, but both condensed and concentrated milk have been produced for some years. During 1904, 965,136 lb., valued at £17,014, were turned out by the local factories. The values of the output for previous years were :—1902, £7,097; 1903, £12,754. Net imports of preserved milk of all kinds for last year amounted to 645,567 lb., value £11,586, so that although the industry is extending in this State there is still room for further expansion to meet the local demand alone before even considering the question of export.

Two firms engaged in the preservation of milk have availed themselves of the facilities offered by the Meat and Dairy Encouragement Act, particulars being furnished in the following table:—

B e.

—	Number.	Amount.
		£ s. d.
Number of factories to which advances have been made	2	...
Number of factories now in operation	2	...
Amount advanced up to 31st December, 1904	...	2,175 0 0
Amount advanced to works now in operation to 31st December, 1904	...	2,175 0 0
Indebtedness to State on 31st December, 1904	...	2,346 4 8
Including interest due, but not paid	...	Nil
And interest accrued, but not due	...	203 10 2

POULTRY.

Poultry-raising is beginning to be recognised in Queensland as one of the most important and profitable branches of farming. This has for a long time been fully realised both in America and Europe, and the industry has assumed in some places extraordinary dimensions. A small trial shipment of Queensland poultry recently reached London, realising satisfactory prices.

The numbers of each of the different kinds returned by farmers only, in each of the principal districts, together with eggs produced, are shown in the following table: —

B f.

Petty Sessions District.	Fowls.	Ducks.	Geese.	Turkeys.	Other.	Eggs.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	Doz.
Allora	10,707	89	2	205	...	37,526
Beaudesert	17,390	914	185	710	7	30,482
Biggenden	5,154	66	18	81	1	18,630
Bowen	6,027	355	20	311	...	13,654
Brisbane	22,970	2,848	109	105	10	75,817
Bundaberg	19,868	567	21	196	52	67,195
Caboolture	5,997	467	29	281	2	20,138
Cairns	16,934	270	102	38	3	93,645
Childers	8,497	300	18	184	17	38,341
Clifton	20,434	750	104	567	...	47,265
Crow's Nest	15,423	123	270	46	...	25,467
Dalby	18,367	1,198	126	2,537	21	31,452
Douglas	6,846	154	17	50	...	12,969
Dugandan	26,653	2,022	545	472	22	127,087
Esk	13,003	1,104	481	810	10	90,873
Gatton	45,365	2,270	836	772	113	188,104
Gin Gin	7,153	130	47	64	3	15,988
Gympie	15,514	1,383	73	434	25	49,731
Harrisville	17,658	1,603	253	408	26	65,325
Herberton	7,599	87	19	3	3	26,709
Highfields	23,179	272	116	259	11	76,958
Ingham	6,530	533	49	29	13	12,654
Ipswich	13,900	1,225	130	308	8	43,363
Kilkivan	5,756	224	109	536	7	17,613
Killarney	9,515	595	63	231	129	30,754
Laidley	25,797	3,188	1,225	508	49	74,159
Logan	20,422	1,663	170	35	11	81,076
Mackay	20,611	599	123	236	77	58,961
Marburg	20,334	2,545	581	120	...	70,576
Maroochy	17,328	1,066	77	40	5	87,552
Maryborough	9,765	877	86	54	19	52,943
Nanango	16,445	201	93	227	6	38,168
Nerang	10,207	799	57	48	20	35,278
Redcliffe	12,408	1,413	154	33	43	38,442
Rockhampton	21,277	1,025	165	470	25	77,980
Rosewood	14,776	389	154	426	...	56,823
Roma	14,791	760	3	750	...	42,039
South Brisbane	11,812	5,606	53	22	...	57,951
Tiaro	11,485	1,194	187	527	47	29,572
Toowoomba	63,196	1,634	254	2,236	4	167,823
Townsville	9,866	1,014	20	77	35	30,869
Warwick	32,661	1,206	330	3,968	1	80,240
Woodford	7,661	299	81	315	4	26,556
All other Districts	59,905	3,620	537	4,013	328	215,759
Total, 1904	777,186	48,647	8,092	23,742	1,157	2,580,507
Total, 1903	588,901	27,515	6,815	16,685	831	1,891,481
Increase, 1904	188,285	21,132	1,277	7,057	326	689,026
Decrease, 1904	...	...	...	...	...	...

It will be noted that in 1904 there was a large increase as compared with 1903 in every kind recorded in the table, amounting to 188,285, or 32 per cent. in fowls; to 21,132, or 77 per cent. in ducks; 1,277, or 19 per cent., in geese; 7,057, or 42 per cent., in turkeys; and 689,026 dozen, or 36 per cent., in eggs. These large proportionate increases well illustrate the great development already mentioned as having taken place.

The Downs and Moreton districts are the centres where this profitable industry is chiefly pursued.

HONEY AND WAX.

The supply of honey has for a long time exceeded the State's requirements, but the production was not sufficiently extended to obtain a regularity of surplus supply for export. At one time there was a fair promise of establishing a good trade with the United Kingdom; but, unfortunately, due apparently to greed on the part of some producers, an inferior article was placed on the home market, and the opening that offered was to a great extent nullified. Consumers of this commodity are very critical, and both quality and colour must be exactly to requirements, or there is no sale. At one time honey naturally flavoured with eucalyptus was in favour, but unprincipled persons adopted artificial flavouring and prejudiced the name of "Eucalyptus" honey.

The production of honey during 1904 was as follows:—

B g.

District.	No. of Hives.		Honey.	Average per Productive Hive.	Wax.	District.	No. of Hives.		Honey.	Average per Productive Hive.	Wax.
	Productive.	Non-Productive.					Productive.	Non-Productive.			
			Lb.	Lb.	Lb.				Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
Beaudesert ...	329	90	26,356	80	393	Marburg	54	55	2,005	37	29
Brisbane	614	209	16,950	28	422	Maroochy ...	989	139	42,780	43	517
Bundaberg	246	145	27,384	111	701	Maryborough ...	390	127	15,856	41	329
Caboolture ...	1,411	159	74,422	53	1,071	Nerang	657	95	45,833	70	615
Cook	253	40	10,060	40	200	Redcliffe	295	22	11,977	41	348
Crow's Nest ...	618	207	25,535	41	182	Rockhampton ...	707	179	59,148	84	1,015
Dugandan	229	220	2,810	12	178	Rosewood ...	292	147	13,017	45	265
Esk	157	10	15,287	97	352	South Brisbane ...	567	81	27,055	48	616
Gatton	486	90	13,838	28	144	Tiaro	120	43	8,002	67	112
Gayndah	106	...	1,305	12	148	Toowoomba ...	599	120	36,416	61	811
Goodna	527	32	22,420	43	230	Warwick	576	51	43,580	76	680
Gympie	554	37	26,318	48	636	Woodford ...	285	33	16,316	57	329
Harrisville ...	136	122	3,187	23	324	All other Districts	1,197	443	43,959	37	1,044
Herberton	150	25	5,180	35	68						
Ipswich	304	153	7,846	26	189	Total for 1904...	15,598	3,497	783,264	50	15,883
Killarney	1,000	114	56,365	56	1,265	Total for 1903...	13,231	4,706	647,005	49	13,621
Laidley	366	74	10,080	28	291						
Logan	1,268	235	63,577	50	2,129	Increase for 1904	2,367	...	136,259	1	2,262
Mackay	116	...	8,400	72	250	Decrease for 1904	...	1,209	...	...	...

There were 15,598 productive hives returned in 1904 as against 13,231 in the previous year, or an increase of 2,367 hives. Honey obtained amounted to 783,264 lb. as against 647,005 lb., or an increase of 136,259 lb. The average yield secured from each hive robbed was 50 lb. in 1904 and 49 lb. in 1903.

The quantity and value of honey exported during each of the last four years were as follow:—

B h.

HONEY EXPORTED.

Country.	1901.		1902.		1903.		1904.	
	Lb.	£	Lb.	£	Lb.	£	Lb.	£
United Kingdom	17,653	167	224	2	648	5	15,730	143
Australasia	32,953	334	208,504	2,398	140,011	1,556	*372,173	3,509
Elsewhere	4,110	43	7,560	74	346	13	2,937	33
	54,716	544	216,288	2,474	141,005	1,574	*390,840	3,685

* Estimated.

The bulk was returned as sent to other States of the Commonwealth, but whether for consumption or for transhipment oversea it is impossible to say.

IMPORTS OF PRODUCTS OF AGRICULTURE.

As was anticipated when writing on this subject last year, the result of the improvement in the season which exhibited itself in more satisfactory crops being garnered during 1903, had their effect in reducing the import of agricultural products during 1904. This has the appearance of a disadvantage in that it adversely affects the trade of the State, but is really a matter for congratulation, as it is evident

that an equivalent amount of money remains with our farmers instead of enriching those elsewhere. T result will be readily seen by the figures in the following statement:—

C.

Value of—	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£	£
Grain, &c., and various Products thereof	589,948	457,044	846,621	829,232	380,627
Fruit, and various Products thereof	155,609	160,413	186,521	318,667	221,582
Vegetables, Fresh and Preserved	95,922	124,296	203,640		
Other Products of Agriculture	184,148	170,388	628,531	403,632	210,701
Total	1,025,627	912,141	1,865,313	1,551,531	812,910

The benefit to our farmers, which would relate principally to the crops of 1903, is seen to have been little less than three-quarters of a million sterling. Details respecting the more important items comprised in the foregoing table will be found in the subjoined statement, which, however, has been made to embrace most of the principal articles of food, and, consequently, includes several items not strictly the output of the Queensland agriculturist:—

C a.

Where Imports Exceed Exports.

Principal Items of Foodstuffs.	Imports.		Exports.		Net Imports.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£
Barley (Pearl)	56,422 lb.	308	...	40	...	268
Biscuits	514,718 ,,	17,868	97,244 lb.	1,620	417,474 lb.	16,248
Coffee (all kinds)	213,943 ,,	7,626	68,623 ,,	3,642	145,320 ,,	3,984
Flour	567,578 centals	228,558	31,368 centals	12,199	536,210 centals	216,359
Hay and Chaff	197,120 cwt.	23,666	12,068 cwt.	1,501	185,052 cwt.	22,165
Maizena and Cornflour ...	416,467 lb.	4,045	2,791 lb.	38	413,676 lb.	4,007
Malt	23,353 centals	18,394	...	811	...	17,583
Milk and Cream (Preserved)... ...	894,859 lb.	16,144	249,292 lb.	4,558	645,567 lb.	11,586
Oatmeal	2,778,992 ,,	18,006	3,724 ,,	61	2,775,268 ,,	17,945
Oats	33,200 centals	8,033	563 centals	156	32,637 centals	7,877
Onions	86,696 cwt.	12,508	498 cwt.	169	86,198 cwt.	12,339
Potatoes	198,717 ,,	20,265	17,522 ,,	3,638	181,195 ,,	16,627
Preserves	3,881,338 lb.	53,282	326,719 lb.	5,313	3,554,619 lb.	47,969
Rice	96,228 centals	56,066	2,488 centals	919	93,740 centals	55,147
Total Values	...	484,769	...	34,665	...	450,104

Where Exports Exceed Imports.

Principal Items of Foodstuffs.	Imports.		Exports.		Net Exports.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£
Arrowroot	53 lb.	1	...	4,386	...	4,385
Bacon and Hams	139,665 ,,	4,936	1,447,290 lb.	42,481	1,307,625 lb.	37,545
Barley	25,063 centals	5,875	181,723 centals	47,914	156,660 centals	42,039
Butter	18,052 lb.	642	9,436,509 lb.	345,171	9,418,457 lb.	344,529
Cattle, Sheep, and Pigs	...	339,583	...	1,254,182	...	914,599
Cheese	92,686 lb.	2,501	482,322 lb.	9,235	389,636 lb.	6,734
Eggs	7,234 doz.	250	240,854 doz.	7,749	233,620 doz.	7,499
Fruit and Vegetables	...	127,077	...	149,347	...	22,270
Honey	10,997 lb.	120	...	3,694	...	3,574
Lard and Refined Animal Fats ...	45,984 ,,	597	870,111 lb.	13,914	824,127 lb.	13,317
Maize	1,587 centals	470	154,214 centals	30,356	152,627 centals	29,886
Meat (all kinds, including Extract)	...	7,864	...	664,864	...	657,000
Molasses	8 cwt.	6	...	910	...	904
Oysters	...	...	...	17,959	...	17,959
Sugar	1,669 cwt.	1,440	...	1,259,052	...	1,257,612
Wheat	6,160 centals	1,580	137,547 centals	38,437	131,387 centals	36,857
Total Values	...	492,942	...	3,889,651	...	3,396,709

In the following comments on the above table reference is made to net imports and exports. Among the items showing the most pronounced variation from the figures of the preceding year are flour, which dropped from 704,893 centals to 536,210 centals; barley, from an import of 39,363 centals to an export of 156,660 centals; butter, from an import of 313,417 lb. to an export of 9,418,457 lb.; cheese, from an import of 528,305 lb. to an export of 389,636 lb.; fruit and vegetables, from an import value of £2,692 to an export one of £22,270; wheat, from an import of 603,294 centals to an export of 131,387 centals; sugar, from an export value of £646,199 to £1,257,612, and other items of less note.

Unfortunately the export of pastoral products has not proceeded in like ratio, but this branch also shows progression, although from its very nature years must elapse before the ravages of the late drought are counteracted.

The conditions of the agricultural labour market, together with the amount invested in the necessary machinery, &c., is shown in the following table:—

C b.

District.	Labour.				Value of Machinery and Implements.			
	Farming.		Dairying.		Farming	Dairying.	Irrigation.	Total.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	£	£	£	£
Allora	350	67	128	177	24,469	2,222	360	27,051
Ayr	897	20	10	3	9,361	328	19,520	29,209
Bundaberg	2,166	146	65	122	33,721	3,254	52,377	89,352
Clifton	711	239	203	128	44,962	1,596	...	46,558
Dalby	623	7	73	65	24,357	2,451	...	26,808
Dugandan	512	27	204	366	14,465	5,429	550	20,444
Gatton	1,351	126	433	347	37,122	9,592	400	47,114
Gympie	424	35	158	111	11,519	3,442	660	15,621
Harrisville	536	8	425	132	12,565	4,731	...	17,296
Highfields	708	31	171	245	16,912	5,480	...	22,392
Ipswich	403	17	125	201	9,440	5,540	705	15,685
Killarney	406	...	3	7	19,346	842	...	20,188
Laidley	872	135	103	212	21,591	4,437	180	26,208
Mackay	2,430	87	49	66	36,522	810	711	38,043
Marburg	455	34	112	299	12,030	4,637	...	16,667
Rockhampton	537	64	251	167	15,867	2,920	1,640	20,427
Roma	543	125	14	60	29,081	650	...	29,731
Toowoomba	1,864	156	330	483	90,709	9,038	450	100,197
Warwick	1,021	10	214	150	62,621	2,974	...	65,595
All other Districts	17,148	658	1,931	2,589	217,781	53,936	23,306	295,023
Total 1904 ...	33,957	1,992	5,007	5,930	744,441	124,309	100,859	969,609
Total 1903 ...	33,926	2,497	3,022	4,146	724,449	104,758	98,521	927,728
Increase in 1904 ...	31	...	1,985	1,784	19,992	19,551	2,338	41,881
Decrease in 1904 ...	...	505	...	...	...	...	...	...

Progress appears to be practically confined to the dairying industry, in which no less than 3,769 more persons were employed than in the previous year. In a number of districts farmers have to a considerable extent abandoned the cultivation of agricultural crops for sale, devoting their attention to dairying, producing from the soil sufficient only for that purpose. The extension of the dairying industry largely accounts for the decrease of females engaged in "farming," these being transferred to "dairying." Important additions have been made to the stocks of machinery, both for general farming and dairying purposes, the increase in the former being fairly distributed throughout the leading agricultural centres. The total increase of capital invested in the necessary adjuncts to farming of all kinds amounted to £41,881, of which £19,992 was for agricultural machinery, £19,551 for the interests of dairying, and £2,338 for irrigation.

FORESTRY.

I am disposed to think that a passing reference to forestry is justifiable, even in connection with a report on agriculture, if only for the sake of drawing attention to a subject of such paramount importance. In Queensland, it is true, we have large forest areas still untouched, but in countries more highly favoured in this respect the future outlook with respect to timber is being anxiously considered, besides which there are many products of forest trees, such as bark, &c., which are subjects of important and profitable industries, and for those in a position to wait for a return, few branches of agriculture offer so satisfactory a field of investment. In Natal, bark ranks third amongst the staple exports of the colony, and the planting of the wattle is extending with rapid strides. In the United Kingdom a great and growing demand exists for timber suitable for the manufacture of polo, golf, and croquet mallets; surely some of the many varieties of Queensland timber would be suited to meet the demand.

The excellent collections of specimens of native timbers preserved in the office of the Chief Inspector of Forests, Lands Office, and the Agricultural Department, Brisbane, afford a satisfactory assurance on this point.

AGRICULTURE PROPER.

The promise of the earlier portion of the season of 1904 was not fulfilled. Satisfactory weather was experienced from January to June, but the following spring and early summer was very dry, accompanied in some places by hot winds, and, consequently, the second planting of maize was in many instances not proceeded with, and the areas under hay and pumpkins were much circumscribed. The reduction in area of these three crops was the chief cause of the smaller area, both under crop and under cultivation in 1904, as compared with 1903. No doubt the decrease in cultivation was also in part caused by the great increase in dairying, which was apparent in all districts, the district of Esk being specially conspicuous in this respect. The expansion of agricultural pursuits, referred to as apparent during 1903 in the Burnett and Maranoa districts, was continued last year, more extended areas coming under the operations of the farmer. A marked reduction in banana production at Geraldton was also evidenced, a large number of Chinese proprietors having apparently abandoned operations.

The large amount of land taken up for settlement during the past few months, both from the Crown and also by purchase from private owners, affords a happy augury for the prospects of the current and succeeding seasons.

Although the areas cultivated and cropped during 1904 fell short of those of the previous year, yet they compare favourably with the records of other preceding years:—

	1900. Acres.	1901. Acres.	1902. Acres.	1903. Acres.	1904. Acres.
Under cultivation ...	480,372	507,317	478,121	621,693	577,896
Under crop	457,397	483,460	275,383	566,589	539,216

The area cultivated during 1904 was less than that of 1903 by 43,797 acres, and that under crop by 27,373 acres. The area under crop, which is after all the most important, considerably exceeded that for any other preceding year except 1903. In 1901, when the next largest area was cropped, there were 483,460 acres, a shortage as compared with 1904 of 55,756 acres.

SIZE OF CULTIVATED AREAS.

There were 16,463 individual farms in cultivation in 1904, being six more than in the previous year. As already pointed out, there were 43,797 acres less under cultivation in 1904 than in the previous year. The average area under cultivation on all farms was 35·1 acres, and in 1903 the average was 37·8 acres. Full particulars can be gathered from the following table:—

C c.

Petty Sessions District.	Acres under Cultivation.									
	5 Acres and under.		Above 5 and not exceeding 20 Acres.		Above 20 and not exceeding 50 Acres.		Above 50 Acres.		Totals.	
	Owners.	Acres.	Owners.	Acres.	Owners.	Acres.	Owners.	Acres.	Owners.	Acres.
Allora	2	5	16	213	48	1,710	158	18,445	224	20,373
Ayr	4	14	12	105	20	711	34	6,566	70	7,396
Beaudesert	29	91	108	1,267	121	3,896	43	3,454	301	8,708
Biggenden	13	38	86	1,172	64	1,816	5	310	168	3,336
Bowen	38	103	46	457	66	2,137	19	1,433	169	4,130
Brisbane	173	503	337	3,239	48	1,223	...	...	558	4,965
Bundaberg	32	89	169	1,938	175	5,574	105	19,640	481	27,241
Cairns	18	47	138	1,476	75	2,559	55	10,808	286	14,890
Childers	19	57	71	760	109	3,570	109	12,254	308	16,641
Clifton	...	...	14	202	62	2,223	285	32,879	361	35,304
Crow's Nest	13	34	153	1,914	154	4,201	28	1,689	348	7,838
Dalby	25	70	102	1,078	117	3,476	113	15,134	357	19,758
Douglas	16	35	30	306	31	1,005	48	5,566	125	6,912
Dugandan	13	27	143	1,961	249	7,742	18	1,115	423	10,845
Esk	33	93	79	778	70	1,882	11	677	193	3,430
Gatton	42	116	267	3,317	374	11,727	93	6,327	776	21,487
Gin Gin	5	16	46	579	68	2,063	49	4,066	168	6,724
Gympie	66	199	146	1,503	58	1,754	9	674	279	4,130
Harrisville	18	41	97	1,266	156	4,942	40	3,214	311	9,463
Herberton	31	74	37	415	38	1,228	43	4,100	149	5,817
Highfields	17	36	137	1,666	223	7,067	69	5,642	446	14,411
Ingham	6	16	16	198	35	1,146	94	11,830	151	13,190
Ipswich	57	142	120	1,309	77	2,083	10	850	264	4,384
Killarney	18	49	33	322	64	2,202	105	11,963	220	14,536
Laidley	8	22	123	1,695	287	9,384	92	6,740	510	17,841
Logan	122	336	301	3,494	61	1,643	3	178	487	5,651
Mackay	88	236	286	3,208	304	9,585	136	16,386	814	29,415
Marburg	19	50	79	1,004	191	5,536	23	1,582	312	8,172
Maroochy	172	435	312	2,826	93	2,400	4	286	581	5,947
Maryborough	104	292	168	1,853	46	1,236	7	445	325	3,826
Mitchell	2	5	6	72	16	501	46	8,504	70	9,082
Mourilyan	3	9	72	904	97	2,965	51	9,401	223	13,279
Nanango	26	85	129	1,550	146	4,459	44	3,449	345	9,543
Nerang	36	105	90	1,070	60	1,843	14	1,326	200	4,344
Redcliffe	51	164	163	1,904	51	1,553	2	122	267	3,743
Rockhampton	111	290	160	1,406	86	2,258	8	1,003	365	4,957
Roma	5	18	35	348	109	3,498	222	25,667	371	29,531
Rosewood	21	58	132	1,616	151	4,536	13	838	317	7,048
South Brisbane	69	171	114	1,016	30	781	3	185	216	2,153
Tiaro	56	109	103	1,109	87	2,548	9	839	255	4,605
Toowoomba	223	478	348	3,759	310	9,879	438	55,565	1,319	69,681
Warwick	29	87	83	809	156	4,655	315	33,523	583	39,074
Other Districts	701	1,725	750	7,529	242	7,219	74	7,622	1,767	24,095
Totals, 1904	2,534	6,570	5,857	64,613	5,025	154,416	3,047	352,297	16,463	577,896
„ 1903	3,106	8,336	5,358	63,848	4,619	149,996	3,374	399,513	16,457	621,693
Increase, 1904 ...	...	...	499	765	406	4,420	...	...	6	...
Decrease, 1904 ...	572	1,766	...	...	...	...	327	47,216	...	43,797

Last year there were decreases in farms under 5 acres and in those over 50 acres, these holdings having declined by 899 in number and 48,982 acres in area. On the other hand, farms of from 5 to 50 acres increased by 905 in number and 5,185 in acreage. The abandonment of a number of banana farms by Chinese, at Geraldton, was an important cause in the reductions of holdings under 5 acres.

IRRIGATION.

Previous experience with regard to this question has not been reversed, and with a return of more favourable weather the supply of moisture by artificial methods as an aid to farming becomes of secondary importance. A smaller area was cultivated with the aid of irrigation in 1904 than in either of the two immediately preceding years. The area under irrigation during each of the last ten years is shown in the following table:—

D

Year.	Acres Irrigated.	Year.	Acres Irrigated.
1895	6,447	1900	6,969
1896	6,395	1901	6,526
1897	5,647	1902	14,344
1898	9,648	1903	14,786
1899	6,311	1904	13,360

The great increase apparent during the last three years is to be attributed to the laying down of extensive plant in connection with sugar plantations in the Burnett district, and to the extension of existing plant in the more northerly areas around Ayr.

Details respecting the artificial conservation and application of water in connection with cultivation are furnished in the following table:—

D a.

IRRIGATION.

District.	Number of Irrigators.	Acres Irrigated.	Original Source of Water Supply.	Means Employed for Procurement and Utilisation.	Crops Treated.
Ayr	33	4,334	Creek, wells	Steam pumps, gravitation	Sugar-cane, maize, potatoes
Barcaldine	18	285	Bore	Drains	Wheat, vegetables, &c
Bowen	43	265	Wells, creeks, and river ...	Steam and horse pumps, windmills ...	Fruit and vegetables
Brisbane	12	64	Creeks and wells	Steam and horse pumps, windmills, drains and pipes	Mostly vegetables
Bundaberg	15	5,848	River and wells	Steam pumps, windmill, gravitation ...	Sugar-cane, fruit, lucerne, &c.
Cunnamulla	1	120	Bore	Gravitation, drains	Wheat, barley, &c.
Gatton	4	92	Creeks and well	Steam and windmill, drains and pipes	Potatoes, maize, lucerne, and fruit
Hungerford	2	98	Bore	Gravitation	Wheat
Ingham	1	170	River	Steam pumps, drains	Sugar-cane
Mackay	6	542	River, creek, and bore ...	Windmill and steam	Sugar-cane and fruit
Maryborough	8	50	Artesian wells	Hot air engines, pipes	Fruit and vegetables
Rockhampton... ...	23	419	Wells, river, creek, and lagoons	Oil and steam engines, horse-power, piping, and drains	do.
Townsville	43	365	do.	Oil and steam engines, horse-power, flooding	Mixed crops
All other Districts (18)	159	708	Various	Various	All descriptions, largely market gardens
Total	368	13,360			

The only areas in which upwards of 1,000 acres are irrigated are in the localities of Bundaberg and Ayr, already referred to, and practically the only crop treated is sugar-cane.

WHEAT.

After the very satisfactory results which attended the wheat campaign of 1903, and the favourable weather experienced in most localities during the planting season for the following year, it was generally anticipated that the crop for 1904 would prove a record one, both as to area and production; unfortunately, this expectation has only been partially realised. A larger area was reaped; but, as the average yield obtained in 1904 was nearly 3½ bushels below the yield for 1903, the production in the former year was considerably below that for the latter.

In January, 1904, an advance estimate of the wheat crop for 1903 was issued, based on information, collected on post cards, obtained from the producers. An endeavour was made last December to compile a similar estimate, when it was confidently expected that even more reliable data would be collected than in the previous year. Such, however, was not the case; and although farmers were not asked to incur even the expense of a penny stamp, but were simply requested to fill into a postcard the particulars of their wheat and barley crops, and then to drop the card into a post or receiving office, only about one in six would take this small amount of trouble. Consequently the proposed estimate had to be abandoned, and the time devoted and expense incurred were lost.

This exhibition of indifference on the part of farmers as to the collection of information for their own benefit is not calculated to induce further effort in this direction; and, unless some concerted action promising support is made by representative associations, I shall not feel justified in future years in recommending the expenditure necessary to secure an advance estimate.

In Western Australia they succeed in getting advance returns of their wheat crop, the Statistical Department obtaining advices from district officers of the Lands Department. As has been the case in Queensland, they are expecting to find an increased area planted, estimated at 14 per cent., but a lower average return—namely, about 12 bushels; so that if there is any advance in production it will be fractional only.

The grain sheds provided at principal centres in 1903 proved a great convenience to growers last year, and applications were made to the Government for an extension of the system by the construction of sheds in other localities. The initiation of the system may prove the paving of the way to the establishing of central elevators as soon as the volume of the crop appears to justify the outlay.

The European advices received towards the latter end of 1904 pointed to the probability of a scarcity of breadstuffs, the crops having largely failed, especially in the south-east; whilst the United States expected a shortage.

These circumstances affording prospects for the export of cereals to the United Kingdom, it is a matter for regret that the Queensland crop was insufficient for full advantage to be taken of the opportunity.

A shipment of grain to the United Kingdom, recently landed at Leith, was described as "very irregular in quality, not equal to southern wheat, due to the want of grading." Owing to this cause, the results did not prove satisfactory, an allowance of 1s. per quarter being made on the price originally quoted to compensate for irregular quality.

Quotations have been published of sales of Queensland wheat at 3s. 4d. to 3s. 5d. for best white, and for Manitoba a little higher. This, certainly, is not high, but does not seem sufficient to justify the decision announced by some of our wheat farmers to abandon the cultivation of cereals in favour of dairying.

There were 150,958 acres of wheat land reaped for grain in 1904, against 138,096 acres in 1903—an increase on the previous year of 12,862 acres. From this area 2,149,663 bushels were obtained, whilst from the lesser area reaped in 1903, 2,436,799 bushels were garnered, or a decline in production last year of 287,136 bushels. Whilst this increased area is to some extent satisfactory, the total area appears most insignificant when the very large acreage placed under wheat in South Australia is considered, where the last crop amounted to 12,023,172 bushels—the produce of 1,728,232 acres. The average yields to each acre reaped in Queensland for the two years being—1904, 14·24 bushels; 1903, 17·65 bushels. Although the average yield for 1904 falls short of expectations, it compares very favourably with 6·96 bushels secured in last season's crop by South Australia. There were also 3,147 acres mown in 1904, from which 3,608 tons of hay were harvested, which was about half of the area so treated in 1903. Further information respecting this latter area will be found under the section dealing with "Hay Crops."

The following table furnishes particulars respecting the wheat crops of the last ten years:—

E.

WHEAT (GRAIN) RETURNS.

Return for Ten Years.

—	FREE FROM RUST.			AFFECTED WITH RUST.			TOTAL.		
	Area.	Produce.	Average per Acre.	Area.	Produce.	Average per Acre.	Area.	Produce.	Average per Acre.
	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1895	10,549	109,947	10·42	2,401	13,683	5·70	12,950	123,630	9·55
1896	34,164	598,052	17·51	506	3,202	6·33	34,670	601,254	17·34
1897	33,856	632,883	18·69	23,932	376,410	15·73	57,788	1,009,293	17·47
1898	43,342	573,000	13·22	2,877	34,012	11·82	46,219	607,012	13·13
1899	46,917	550,702	11·74	5,610	63,712	11·36	52,527	614,414	11·70
1900	79,227	1,193,193	15·06	77	895	11·62	79,304	1,194,088	15·06
1901	77,162	1,516,779	19·66	10,070	175,443	17·42	87,232	1,692,222	19·40
1902	1,875	6,122	3·27	5	43	8·60	1,880	6,165	3·28
1903	102,062	1,926,712	18·88	36,034	510,087	14·16	138,096	2,436,799	17·65
1904	145,948	2,090,947	14·33	5,010	58,716	11·71	150,958	2,149,663	14·24
Average of Ten Years	57,510	919,834	15·99	8,652	123,620	14·29	66,162	1,043,454	15·77

It will be noticed that the area reaped was practically double that for any other year of the decade, except 1903; and, as already pointed out, exceeded the area for that year by a very substantial acreage. The years 1903 and 1904 were the only ones in which the area exceeded 100,000 acres.

Unfortunately, both wet and dry weather at different periods and in different places adversely affected the results, whilst hail and vermin acted prejudicially in some districts; consequently the yield was by no means so satisfactory as was anticipated, and the average yield was so reduced, especially in the Western and Wide Bay and Burnett districts, that the total production, as already mentioned, fell below that for 1903. The records of the last two seasons, however, well illustrate the great advance made in wheat production in Queensland, the combined result exceeding those for any other four years of the decennium.

The average yield for 1904—namely, 14·24 bushels—was exceeded on five occasions during the past ten years, and was 1½ bushels below the average for the decade and 3·41 bushels below the average yield for 1903, when a return of 17·65 was obtained.

Rust, at one time such a terrible scourge to the wheat farmer in this State, has, by improved cultivation and seed selection, been largely eliminated, and, although present to a considerable extent in 1897 and 1903, was but little in evidence last year. Of the total area reaped, 5,010 acres only were affected with rust, 145,948 acres being returned as free from the pest. On some occasions the yield appears to be but little influenced by the attack; the affected and clean areas return nearly equal averages; indeed, on the mean for the ten years 1895-1904, the difference was 1·70 bushels only; but in both 1903 and 1904 this was not the case, and the diseased crops give smaller average returns by 4·72 bushels and 2·62 bushels respectively.

The following table shows the wheat results for 1904 in each petty sessions district, discriminating between the areas free from and affected with rust :—

E a.

Divisions and Petty Sessions Districts.	RESULTS.								
	FREE FROM RUST.			AFFECTED WITH RUST.			TOTAL.		
	Area.	Produce.	Average per Acre.	Area.	Produce.	Average per Acre.	Total Extent of Land Reaped for Grain.	Produce.	Average per Acre.
	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.
PORT CURTIS.									
Rockhampton	1	30	30·00	...	...	...	1	30	30·00
Total, Port Curtis	1	30	30·00	...	..	...	1	30	30·00
BURNETT AND WIDE BAY.									
Gayndah	18	36	2·00	...	...	...	18	36	2·00
Nanango	1,707	16,814	9·85	12	12	1·00	1,719	16,826	9·79
Tiaro	2	23	11·50	...	...	...	2	23	11·50
Total, Burnett and Wide Bay	1,727	16,873	9·77	12	12	1·00	1,739	16,885	9·71
MORETON.									
Crow's Nest	712	11,375	15·98	74	540	7·30	786	11,915	15·16
Dugandan	17	176	10·35	...	...	...	17	176	10·35
Esk	1	4	4·00	...	...	...	1	4	4·00
Gatton	31	430	13·87	20	164	8·20	51	594	11·65
Harrisville	3	45	15·00	...	...	...	3	45	15·00
Laidley	50	1,003	20·06	...	...	...	50	1,003	20·06
Rosewood	1	30	30·00	...	...	...	1	30	30·00
Total, Moreton	815	13,063	16·03	94	704	7·49	909	13,767	15·15
DOWNS.									
Allora	10,494	210,556	20·06	70	780	11·14	10,564	211,336	20·00
Clifton	19,158	362,430	18·92	...	...	...	19,158	362,430	18·92
Condamine	260	3,357	12·91	...	...	...	260	3,357	12·91
Dalby	14,272	174,367	12·22	498	5,518	11·08	14,770	179,885	12·18
Goondiwindi	133	1,302	9·79	...	...	...	133	1,302	9·79
Highfields	4,278	63,896	14·94	366	4,938	13·49	4,644	68,834	14·82
Inglewood	763	10,919	14·31	...	...	...	763	10,919	14·31
Killarney	7,117	143,420	20·15	1,773	28,638	16·15	8,890	172,058	19·35
Stanthorpe	68	862	12·68	...	...	...	68	862	12·68
Texas	198	2,081	10·51	...	...	...	198	2,081	10·51
Toowoomba	27,372	356,851	13·04	1,176	7,174	6·10	28,548	364,025	12·75
Warwick	21,079	392,891	18·63	562	8,700	15·48	21,641	401,591	18·56
Total, Downs	105,192	1,722,932	16·38	4,445	55,748	12·54	109,637	1,778,680	16·22
MARANOA.									
Mitchel	8,550	44,142	5·16	160	428	2·68	8,710	44,570	5·12
Roma	27,340	272,770	9·98	299	1,824	6·10	27,639	274,594	9·94
St. George	116	1,103	9·51	...	...	...	116	1,103	9·51
Surat	622	5,672	9·12	...	...	..	622	5,672	9·12
Yeulba	1,266	10,941	8·64	...	...	...	1,266	10,941	8·64
Total, Maranoa	37,894	334,628	8·83	459	2,252	4·91	38,353	336,880	8·78
OTHER DISTRICTS.									
Barcaldine	159	2,814	17·70	...	...	...	159	2,814	17·70
Charleville	50	164	3·28	..	...	...	50	164	3·28
Cunnamulla	70	280	4·00	...	...	...	70	280	4·00
Emerald	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...
Springsure	40	163	4·08	...	...	...	40	163	4·08
Total, Other Districts	319	3,421	10·72	..	...	...	319	3,421	10·72
Total, State	145,948	2,090,947	14·33	5,010	58,716	11·71	150,958	2,149,663	14·24

Of the 150,958 acres reaped, 109,637 acres, or 73 per cent., were contributed by the Downs division. Here the average yield was 16·22 bushels to each acre, so that 1,778,680 bushels, or 83 per cent. of the total production, were garnered. Nearly half the Downs acreage was reaped in the districts of Toowoomba and Warwick; but the best results were obtained in the districts of Allora, Killarney, and Clifton, where averages of 20·00 bushels, 19·35 bushels, and 18·92 bushels were recorded. Warwick was, however, only a little below the last named with a return of 18·56 bushels to each acre.

The Western districts grouped into the division of Maranoa reaped the very considerable area of 38,353 acres—an increase of nearly 10,000 acres on that of the previous year—for a return of only 336,880 bushels; and it was this small average return of only 8·78 bushels per acre that materially reduced the total mean results for the State. The growers within this section stated that the short crop was in consequence of the dry weather experienced.

The 8,710 acres reaped in Mitchell, the most westerly of these districts, only yielded 44,570 bushels, or an average of 5·12 bushels per acre.

At Barcaldine, however, the most westerly point in the State where this cereal was cultivated, 159 acres yielded 2,814 bushels, or an average of 17·70 bushels per acre; but then this was grown with the aid of irrigation, the water being obtained from artesian sources.

The Burnett and Wide Bay division, from the experience of 1903, promised to become a wheat area of some importance. There was a small increase in the acreage farmed to this cereal in 1904, but the result was much less satisfactory than in the previous year, an average of not quite 10 bushels per acre being secured. It is open to question whether rich scrub lands cannot be put to better use than the production of wheat, as this cereal thrives better on soil less rich in alluvium. In the Moreton district an average return of 15·15 bushels were harvested from 909 acres, better than the average for the whole State, but less satisfactory than that returned from the Downs.

Wheat is exported to a considerable extent from the Commonwealth, but to make such export continue profitable it will become increasingly necessary to ship only the best grain, and that of the class most in demand.

England can obtain her supplies of soft wheats from closer markets, whilst the United States can produce for her own use an ample quantity of this description of grain, but needs to import considerable quantities of the hard wheats. In America the cultivation line for these, at one time located well to the south, is, with the exhaustion of the prairie soils, receding year by year to the north, and is now pushing across the Dominion, with the promise of there pinching-out against the barrier of extreme frost. Canada, therefore, the source of the States' supply of hard wheat, will each year be less reliable for the purpose, and the market will be open to any country able to produce the article. Nearly all the Australian wheat is soft, but hard wheat of the Manitoba variety will grow here, and, if its characteristics can be maintained, it would be well to bear in mind the possibilities which exist in catering for this trade.

BREADSTUFFS.

Taking the wheat requirements of the State for food at 6·5 bushels per head, which is about the proved consumption on the mean of a series of years, it is seen that 3,390,757 bushels of wheat are needed to meet home demands, taking the population at the end of the year; in addition to which, say, 125,000 bushels must be provided for seed purposes; so that the production in 1904 was, on this basis, insufficient to meet our requirements by 1,366,094 bushels.

The following table furnishes particulars as to imports and exports of breadstuffs during 1904:—

E b.

BREADSTUFFS.

ITEM.	IMPORTED.		EXPORTED.		NET IMPORTS.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£		£
Wheat (centals)	6,160	1,580	137,548	38,437	*131,388	*36,857
Flour (centals)	567,578	228,558	31,368	12,199	536,210	216,359
Biscuits (lb.)	514,718	17,868	97,244	1,620	417,474	16,248
Total	...	248,006	...	52,256	...	195,750

* Excess of Exports.

N.B.—Quantities of Interstate Exports estimated on the British and Foreign Trade basis of values.

The Customs authorities, owing to a new departure, having ceased to collect, are unable to furnish particulars as to quantities of interstate exports; these, consequently, have been estimated as set out as a footnote to the table.

It will be seen that on the basis of value the imports exceeded the exports last year by 5 to 1, the excess of the former amounting to £195,750, the net imports for each of the last three years being shown in the following table:—

E c.

—	1902.		1903.		1904.	
		£		£		£
Wheat	125,163 centals	= 43,990	603,294 centals	= 218,059	*131,388 centals	= *36,857
Flour	699,432 „	= 317,709	704,893 „	= 393,571	536,210 „	= 216,359
Biscuits	424,892 lb.	= 15,414	464,446 lb.	= 16,447	417,474 lb.	= 16,248
		377,113		628,077		195,750

* Excess of Exports.

The mean annual value of the net imports for the three years was £400,313, representing the loss each year to our farmers and millers from failing to supply our own demands for breadstuffs.

The net import and the production for each of the past five years of wheat and flour (in terms of wheat) are shown in the following table:—

E d.

IMPORTS IN EXCESS OF EXPORTS OF WHEAT AND FLOUR, THE LATTER CONVERTED INTO TERMS OF THE FORMER.

Year.	Imported over Exported.	Grown in Queensland.	Total.
	Net Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1900	2,346,447	1,194,088	3,540,535
1901	1,820,240	1,692,222	3,512,462
1902	1,957,205	6,165	1,963,370
1903	2,767,723	2,436,799	5,204,522
1904	1,121,545	2,149,663	3,271,208

NOTE.—For the purposes of this Statement the flour imported has been converted into wheat on the basis of 1 cental of flour = 2½ bushels of wheat.

Although the estimate of the average consumption is based upon the experience of a longer period than five years, yet it will be seen that the mean annual consumption given by the five years reviewed in the above table approximates very closely to the figures previously arrived at, the difference being some 17,000 bushels only.

FLOUR-MILLS.

With an increase in the area farmed to wheat in 1903, an expansion of the milling industry was only to be expected. There were two more mills engaged in treating wheat in 1904 than in the previous year; whilst the quantity of grain passed through the rollers was very much in excess.

Full particulars respecting the production of wheaten flour are furnished in the following table:—

E e.

District.	Number of Establishments.	Number of Hands Employed.	Number of Stones.	Number of Rollers.	Wheat Treated.	FLOUR MADE.		MEAL MADE.		BRAN AND POLLARD.	
						Tons.	Value.	Tons.	Value.	Bushels.	Value.
			Pairs.	Sets.	Bushels.		£		£		£
Metropolitan	7	106	9	58	903,571	17,654	138,094	124	1,000	862,152	20,294
Toowoomba	3	32	...	35	304,299	5,990	45,804	10	70	296,226	7,506
Elsewhere	9	63	9	63	521,767	10,390	79,476	43	452	515,521	14,355
Total, 1904 ...	19	201	18	156	1,729,637	34,034	263,374	177	1,522	1,673,899	42,155
,, 1903 ...	17	149	13	140	1,172,908	23,738	280,996	101	1,330	781,595	39,139

At some of the above establishments but little wheat is treated, the factories being principally devoted to treating other grain. Information respecting Grain Mills will be found in Part VIII. of the Statistical Register.

There were nineteen mills working in the State during 1904: 7 in the metropolitan area, 3 at Toowoomba, 2 each at Warwick and Roma, and 1 each at Allora, Clifton, Dalby, Ipswich, and Rockhampton; and these gave employment to 201 persons last year, against 149 in 1903. One of the mills at Roma was, unfortunately, destroyed by fire towards the close of last year.

In 1903, 1,172,908 bushels of wheat were ground, and 1,729,637 bushels in 1904—an increase in the latter year of 556,729 bushels.

From the 1,172,908 bushels passing through the rollers in 1903, 23,839 tons of flour or meal were obtained, thus requiring 49·2 bushels of wheat to produce each ton of flour; whilst the 1,729,637 bushels ground in 1904 yielded 34,211 tons of flour or meal, giving a return of 1 ton to each 50·6 bushels. The meal forms such a small proportion of the total quantity in both years that no disturbance of the proportions could result from its inclusion.

State aid is afforded to this branch of the farming industry in the form of advances by way of loan to encourage the establishment of flour-mills in the various wheat-growing centres. There are two mills supported, at least in part, by loans of this character, of which the following are the particulars:—

Number of mills to which advances made			2
	£	*s.*	*d.*
Amount advanced to 31st December, 1904	3,438	0	0
Indebtedness to 31st December, 1904, including interest ...	3,376	13	5
Including interest due, but not paid	154	2	7
Balance owing on said works	3,222	10	10

BARLEY.

Although there was a marked increase in the area placed under barley for malting purposes in 1903, the experience for 1904 was not so satisfactory, a smaller acreage being planted. This certainly cannot be attributed to any considerations of climate or soil, as it has now been conclusively proved that barley of the very best quality can be produced in Queensland. Parcels of Queensland barley have on several occasions commanded full market prices, but the want of a systematic grading before being placed on the market has, in many instances, materially reduced the pecuniary return. There is no doubt that this practice of neglecting grading, which has obtained in this State for so long, militates against securing the highest value quoted on the market, and is especially severely felt in connection with cereals. In the absence of a central establishment for the purpose, it would be difficult to secure the adoption of a satisfactory method of grading, but until something in this direction is carried out Queensland grain is not likely to receive the attention on foreign markets that its quality would justify. If even the bulk of a consignment is good, but is mixed with inferior grain, the price commanded will only be that of the lower quality.

Grading is not likely to be generally adopted until production exceeds the home requirements to a greater extent than at present. When the surplus to be exported justifies the expenditure, then, no doubt the desirableness of adopting methods necessary to secure the best prices will bring about this essential reform. In the meantime, the farmer and the local maltster will remain at variance, the former satisfied that he does not receive fair value for his crop, the latter equally assured that the price he pays, or is prepared to pay, is as much as the quality justifies.

The total area under barley is seen in the following table:—

F.

——	1903.	1904.
	Acres.	Acres.
Reaped for grain	22,881	17,387
Mown for hay	660	443
Cut for green food	2,993	4,517
	26,534	22,347

Of the 22,347 acres sown with barley 78 per cent. were sown for grain, a less proportion by 8 per cent. than in the previous year, the difference being wholly in that set for green food, which rose from 2,993 acres in 1903 to 4,517 in 1904.

The area cultivated for grain and the results for the past two years are compared in the following table:—

F a.

Year.	Area for Grain.	Produce.	Average Produce per Acre.
	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1903	22,881	510,557	22·31
1904	17,387	331,772	19·08
Increase in 1904	...	...	...
Decrease in 1904	5,494	178,785	3·23

Although the result per acre was less than in 1903, the yield cannot be considered unsatisfactory, being higher than the general average of the previous ten years; and, in making this comparison, it must be borne in mind that the areas returning higher percentages in all previous years except 1903 were much smaller, in 1895 being only 4 per cent., and in 1897 only 12 per cent. of the acreage reached in the year under review. Of the area cultivated, the bulk was grown on the Darling Downs, as will be seen from the following table:—

F b.

District.	Malting Grain.			Other Varieties Grain.		
	Acres.	Bushels.	Average per Acre, Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.	Average per Acre, Bushels.
Allora	1,216	27,948	22·98	286	6,403	22·39
Clifton	4,804	109,963	22·89	22	400	18·18
Crow's Nest	240	4,803	20·01	25	704	28·16
Dalby	945	10,535	11·15	151	1,702	11·27
Highfields	722	13,942	19·31	45	1,612	35·82
Killarney	552	16,385	29·68	105	3,682	35·07
Toowoomba	3,965	62,290	15·71	767	11,595	15·12
Warwick	2,764	48,470	17·54	527	8,044	15·26
All Other Districts	174	2,110	12·13	77	1,184	15·38
Total State	15,382	296,446	19·27	2,005	35,326	17·62

For comparative purposes, Allora and Clifton must be read together, the latter being a new petty sessions district, mainly constituted out of the Allora of previous years; there was considerably more barley of the malting variety grown in this locality, and a marked reduction in other kinds. Of the other districts mentioned in the table, Dalby is the only one showing an increase in the area planted with malting barley, but the yield there was poor, owing to the dry weather. It is in the non-malting section that the bulk of the reduction in the barley crop occurs, there being over 4,000 acres less of this kind than the previous year. The average yield in Killarney was much the best of all the districts shown, being 29·68 bushels for malting, and 35·07 bushels for other, per acre. In no other district was the average for malting so high as in the previous year.

The quantity of barley malted, which would necessarily belong to the crop of the previous year, was 113,000 bushels. This was all grown in the State. Particulars respecting this industry can be obtained from the following table:—

F c.

Year.	Made from Imported Barley.	Made from Queensland Barley.	Total Malt Made.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1900	15,337	57,393	72,730
1901	1,000	69,000	70,000
1902	9,500	75,500	85,000
1903	67,500	...	67,500
1904	...	113,000	113,000

It will be noticed that during the year under review no imported barley was malted. The quantity dealt with was considerably more than in previous years, and might have been even greater but that by the time the quantity of grain available was recognised, brewers would have placed their orders elsewhere, the certainty of supply being an important factor in the trade. With a continuity of good or even fair seasons a considerable increase in this direction may be expected. The relative quantity of malt imported and made in the State can be gathered from the table printed below.

F d.

Year.	Malt made in Queensland.	Year.	Malt Imported.
	Bushels.		Bushels.
1895-96 (financial)	12,988	1895	153,843
1896-97 ditto	14,400	1896	147,474
1897-98 ditto	34,589	1897	156,613
1898 (calendar)	32,629	1898	129,811
1899 ditto	62,271	1899	127,469
1900 ditto	72,730	1900	134,098
1901 ditto	70,000	1901	121,424
1902 ditto	85,000	1902 ... 45,507 centals =	119,755
1903 ditto	67,500	1903 ... 35,933 ditto =	94,561
1904 ditto	113,000	1904 ... 23,353 ditto =	61,455

The quantity of foreign malt required shows a steadily decreasing amount. The quantity made in the State during 1904 does not require to be greatly augmented to reach the total of our requirements. It would then remain to be seen whether the quality is such as to capture a fair share of the southern trade. If this should prove to be the case, a great impetus would be given to the industry.

As bearing on the subject, the quantity of beer brewed and malt actually used for the purpose during the last five years is given.

Fe.

Year.	Beer.	Malt.
	Gallons.	Bushels.
1900	5,738,190	192,668
1901	5,325,314	188,100
1902	* 5,333,202	170,610
1903	† 4,489,958	147,591
1904	‡ 4,455,110	145,778

* Including waste 260,038 gallons. † Including waste 165,622 gallons. ‡ Including waste 134,872 gallons.

The smaller quantity of beer brewed is probably due to the competition between the Queensland beverage and that of some of the southern States, notably from Victoria and Tasmania, which finds favour amongst those who prefer a light bitter beer at a moderate cost.

MAIZE.

Little attention appears to be paid to the cultivation of this crop. A considerable area is invariably planted, fluctuating according to the season, but year after year passes away without any general relative increase in the area planted, and certainly with no improvement in the average return obtained from the crop. Little care is evinced in preparing the land for maize, and too often this crop receives such scant attention that it is surprising that any return should result. Probably the prolific yields obtained from rich virgin soil leads the farmer to ignore scientific methods when dealing with maize. Small wonder then that the results fail to attain to what would certainly be secured under a more favourable method of cultivation.

In 1904 a smaller area was devoted to maize than in the previous year by 13,928 acres, but the yield was much better. Particulars for the past five years are contained in the following table:—

G.

Year.	Grain.		Average per Acre.
	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1900	127,974	2,456,647	19·20
1901	116,983	2,569,118	21·96
1902	89,923	1,033,329	11·49
1903	133,099	1,923,623	14·45
1904	119,171	2,542,766	21·34

The years 1901 and 1904 compare very closely, and the results are better than those of the other three years of the quinquennium. There has been no marked change in the area devoted to maize since 1895; and the earlier years, not only for that decade but for a much longer period, show better results than the later ones; indeed, the decline in the annual average is very marked, a fact clearly showing the absence of proper cultivation, and well illustrating the apathy of those devoting their attention to the cultivation of this cereal.

The crop for 1904 was principally obtained from the autumn planting, that sown in the spring having largely failed; the causes given being in most cases dry weather, although hot wind, mice, hail, and caterpillars receive their share of blame.

The following table shows particulars respecting this crop in various parts of the State:—

Ga.

Maize Grain.

Division or Group.	Acres.	Yield.	Average.	Proportion of Area to whole Area of Maize for Grain.
		Bushels.	Bushels.	
Rockingham	7,781	243,125	31·25	6·53
Edgecumbe	1,147	17,896	15·60	0·96
Port Curtis	1,926	52,380	27·20	1·61
Burnett and Wide Bay	20,042	497,583	24·83	16·82
Moreton	56,814	1,210,184	21·30	47·68
Downs	29,272	494,920	16·91	24·56
Maranoa	531	6,244	11·76	0·45
Other Districts	1,658	20,434	12·32	1·39
Total State	119,171	2,542,766	21·34	100·00

Nearly half the area planted is seen to have been in the Moreton division, where the average yield per acre of 21·30 bushels was obtained, or 8·22 bushels better than in 1903. The Downs was the next largest contributor, with nearly one-fourth of the total area; the yield in this division, however, only reached 16·91 bushels, but this was much better than in the previous year, when only 7·43 bushels were obtained. In Burnett and Wide Bay only 16·82 per cent. of the total area appears against 19·32 in 1903. The yield rose from 18·71 in 1903 to 24·83 in 1904, so that more grain was secured in the latter year

from the smaller area cultivated. The best results were obtained by the Rockingham division, where 31·25 bushels per acre were garnered, a return about equal to that of 1903. The principal maize-growing districts, and the results obtained therein, are given in the next table:—

G b.

Petty Sessions District.	Area Planted for Grain.			Yield of Grain.			Average Yield per Acre.		
	In 1903.	In 1904.	Increase or Decrease —	In 1903.	In 1904.	Increase or Decrease —	In 1903.	In 1904.	Increase or Decrease —
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
Allora, Clifton } Allora	8,682	2,660 / 3,785	—2,237	54,154	43,018 / 51,464	40,328	6·24	14·66	8·42
Ayr	1,468	546	— 922	23,620	7,102	— 16,518	16·09	13·01	— 3·08
Beaudesert	3,390	2,830	— 560	53,943	67,911	13,968	15·91	24·00	8·09
Biggenden	2,339	1,808	— 531	53,518	51,181	— 2,337	22·88	28·31	5·43
Bundaberg	8,035	3,798	—4,237	195,808	105,586	— 90,222	24·37	27·80	3·43
Cairns	2,489	1,658	— 831	65,259	48,082	— 17,177	26·22	29·00	2·78
Childers	2,106	1,135	— 971	34,834	28,973	— 5,861	16·54	25·53	8·99
Crow's Nest	6,263	4,788	—1,475	60,854	87,502	26,648	9·72	18·28	8·56
Dalby	816	1,054	238	12,528	20,810	8,282	15·35	19·74	4·39
Dugandan	7,364	7,455	91	99,986	164,386	64,400	13·58	22·05	8·47
Esk	2,359	2,012	— 347	44,750	70,187	25,437	18·97	34·88	15·91
Gatton	12,021	9,488	—2,533	169,008	214,500	45,492	14·06	22·61	8·55
Gin Gin	2,405	1,642	— 763	41,064	53,920	12,856	17·07	32·84	15·77
Gympie, Kilkivan } Gympie	1,928	1,922 / 1,012	1,006	43,492	57,202 / 16,864	30,574	22·56	25·24	2·68
Killarney	1,622	3,145	1,523	8,456	68,613	60,157	5·21	21·82	16·61
Harrisville	3,160	4,154	994	31,368	76,316	44,948	9·93	18·37	8·44
Highfields	6,780	6,189	— 591	50,275	120,789	70,514	7·42	19·52	12·10
Herberton	5,033	5,208	175	182,899	171,202	— 11,697	36·34	32·87	— 3·47
Ipswich	1,302	1,483	181	12,479	24,289	11,810	9·58	16·38	6·80
Laidley	9,176	10,027	851	98,824	195,351	96,527	10·77	19·48	8·71
Logan	2,004	1,406	— 598	44,660	33,345	— 11,315	22·29	23·72	1·43
Marburg	3,687	3,623	— 64	15,311	66,935	51,624	4·15	18·48	14·33
Maryborough	685	1,012	327	15,764	16,864	1,100	23·01	16·66	— 6·35
Nanango	5,892	6,202	310	47,033	93,569	46,536	7·98	15·09	7·11
Nerang	2,471	2,032	— 439	54,007	53,961	— 46	21·86	26·56	4·70
Redcliffe	2,522	1,811	— 711	37,990	32,807	— 5,183	15·06	18·12	3·06
Rockhampton	1,135	1,262	127	22,240	29,196	6,956	19·59	23·13	3·54
Rosewood	2,505	2,654	149	16,422	39,896	23,474	6·56	15·03	8·47
Tiaro	1,508	1,440	— 68	32,614	62,443	29,829	21·63	43·36	21·73
Toowoomba	7,945	7,354	— 591	77,049	111,483	34,434	9·70	15·16	5·46
Warwick	3,440	4,521	1,081	11,070	67,728	56,658	3·22	14·98	11·76
All other Districts ...	10,567	8,055	—2,512	212,344	189,291	— 23,053	19·15	23·50	4·35
Total State ...	133,099	119,171	13,928	1,923,623	2,542,766	619,143	14·45	21·34	6·89

In most of the larger districts there was a falling-off in area; this was principally owing to the dry weather, which set in just about the time when the second crop would otherwise have been sown. The crop at Tiaro was specially stated by the farmers to have given satisfaction, although the area affected by the dry weather extended to that district, and but little was planted late in the year. The poor yields obtained from the large areas, extending from Toowoomba south to Warwick, and west to Roma, had the effect of materially reducing the average yield for the whole State.

OATS.

Little attention is given to this cereal as a grain crop, the cultivation being more directed to its utilisation for hay or green fodder. The total area planted is shown in the following table:—

H.

Oats.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Reaped for grain	1,535	78	2,808	643
Mown for hay	17,167	2,619	19,523	9,076
Cut for green fodder	4,561	1,462	1,897	3,354
Total	23,263	4,159	24,228	13,073

The area reaped for grain was quite insignificant. Particulars respecting the area under oats for grain for the past two years are compared below:—

H a.

Year.	Area for Grain.	Produce.	Average Produce per Acre.
	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1903	2,808	70,713	25·18
1904	643	15,137	23·54
Increase in 1904	...	...	...
Decrease in 1904	2,165	55,576	1·64

Although the area shown above is small, the yield per acre compares favourably with that of previous years, being only exceeded twice in the decade, viz., in 1903 and 1901, when 25·18 and 27·50 bushels respectively were obtained for each acre. The requirements of the State would allow for a considerable expansion in the industry, as about 300,000 bushels are annually utilised in one form or another within its confines. It is not probable the whole of the home demand for oatmeal could be locally supplied, as certain brands, which are imported from America and elsewhere, have become too popular to be readily displaced. Particulars respecting this phase of the industry can be gathered from the following table:—

H b.

ANNUAL ACQUISITION by the STATE of OATEN GRAIN and its PRODUCTS expressed in TERMS of OATS.*

——	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	Average of the Quinquennium.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
Net Imports { Oats (Grain) ...	194,581	135,365	266,463	134,443	81,618	162,494
Net Imports { Products of Oats ...	87,367	102,800	139,059	93,200	123,895	109,264
Production, Oats (Grain)	7,855	42,208	520	70,713	15,137	27,287
Total	289,803	280,373	406,042	298,356	220,650	299,045

* Oatmeal converted into Oats on an approved basis.

RICE.

The cultivation of rice was, during 1904, entirely confined to the north of the State. This crop has been grown in small quantities for many years, and although seven or eight years ago it promised to attain some importance, the conditions attending its cultivation are such that only two or three growers have continued to sow rice in any appreciable quantity. The yield per acre has remained practically constant for the last six years, and, although there was a slight increase in the area planted during 1904, there does not seem much prospect of its ever attaining prominence in Queensland. The table below gives information respecting the crop for the last seven years:—

I.

Year.	Acres.	Bushels.	Average Bushels.
1898	863	38,133	44·19
1899	319	9,275	29·08
1900	271	6,870	25·35
1901	205	5,222	25·47
1902	38	1,093	28·76
1903	49	1,322	27·00
1904	60	1,638	27·30

RYE.

This crop is only cultivated for grain by a few farmers on the Downs, who, perhaps, like occasionally to change the wheaten for rye bread. The crop is of little importance, and the demand for the grain extremely small. A little is cultivated for hay and green fodder. Particulars of the grain crop for five years are set out below:—

J.

Year.	Acres.	Yield.	Average per Acre.
		Bushels.	Bushels.
1900	151	1,928	12·77
1901	246	5,000	20·33
1902	22	238	10·82
1903	315	6,482	20·58
1904	151	1,729	11·45

POTATOES (ENGLISH).

The import of potatoes has always been greater than circumstances would appear to justify. It is true that the yield per acre in Queensland falls short of that obtained in some places, and perhaps this fact, combined with the occasional failures of the crop, tends to deter farmers from extending its cultivation. As the climate and soil are suitable, there appears no sufficient reason why our agriculturists should not at least meet the needs of the home demand.

The imports for the last five years are given below:—

K.

Year.	Weight.	Value.
	Tons.	£
1900	16,001	64,831
1901	14,621	81,800
1902	27,848	152,560
1903	26,734	89,605
1904	9,936	20,265

During the years of most severe drought, the money sent out of the State assumed large proportions, as the price at that time ruled extremely high. This, however, was on that occasion unavoidable, as it is not probable that, without the aid of irrigation, even the adoption of the best methods of cultivation would at that time have yielded any satisfactory result.

The fallacy of taking the figures of any individual year as a measure of the consumption is exemplified with this crop. Although only 1,582 tons more were produced during 1904, there were 16,910 tons less, valued at nearly £70,000, imported, showing that the stock held over from 1903 must have been unduly large. There were 3,039 more acres cultivated during 1904 than in the previous year, but the yield, 19,231 tons, was not relatively as good as in the previous year, being 1·97 tons per acre as against 2·62 tons in 1903.

SWEET POTATOES.

The sweet potato, although used to some extent as a vegetable in the towns on or near the coast, does not in any great way take the place of the English potato. There were 2,983 acres planted during 1904, yielding 14,026 tons, or at the rate of 4·70 tons per acre. The area was slightly less than in the previous year, but the return was about 6 cwt. per acre better. At one time largely used by the kanakas for food, its use for this purpose has greatly declined of late years, and this to some extent accounts for so little attention being paid to the crop.

SUGAR.

The sugar season for 1904-5 was, with one exception, the best as regards output ever experienced. Approximating very closely to 150,000 tons, it fell short of the production for 1898 by some 15,000 tons, but exceeded that for any other year by a considerably greater amount.

An advance approximate return of the sugar crop was issued from this office in January of this year. The particulars were kindly supplied by mill managers, who most courteously responded to my request for information. Unfortunately, although furnished so late in the season as December, when it might have been supposed that the results of the crop could have been determined with accuracy, these advance figures differed considerably in several instances from the final returns. One important proprietary erring to the extent of an appreciable percentage of its total output, whilst in another instance a manager misunderstood the return, and gave a tonnage of sugar, although none was made, evidently estimating the product of juice supplied to another mill, which rightly, again returned the sugar. These two inaccurate returns accounted for more than two-thirds of the difference between the advance figures and the final results now published.

In 1904 there were 120,317 acres cultivated for sugar, of which the produce of 82,741 acres was cut for crushing, giving a return of 1,326,989 tons of cane, from which 147,688 tons of sugar of a saccharine contents of 94 per cent. net titre were obtained.

For the first time the quality of the sugar, as ascertained by saccharometer or polariscope, has been taken into account; previously the avoirdupois weight as returned by the mills, without regard to quality, had been tabulated. This change has been made at the suggestion of Dr. Maxwell, Comptroller of Central Mills, and the percentage of sugar contents 94 N.T. has been adopted as being the standard most generally recognised. Taking the avoirdupois weight would nominally add some 800 tons to the sugar production last season, a position not to be lost sight of in making comparisons with the results of previous years. The relative standard a few years ago was much lower, and this fact also has an important bearing on the matter.

The following table furnishes particulars respecting this crop for each of the past five years:—

L.

Year.	Acres Cultivated.	Acres Crushed.	YIELD.	
			Tons Cane.	Tons Sugar.
1900	108,535	72,651	848,328	92,554
1901	112,031	78,160	1,180,091	120,858
1902	85,338	59,102	641,927	76,626
1903	111,516	60,375	823,875	91,828
1904	120,317	82,741	1,326,989	*147,688

* 94 per cent. net titre.

It will be noted that the relation between the area planted with cane and the acreage crushed is remarkably constant. For four years of the quinquennium, the latter comprising about 70 per cent. of the former, the variation only amounting to 3 per cent. In 1903, however, but little more than half the

cultivated area (54 per cent.) was crushed, chiefly due to the large quantity of cane held over as being unfit for cutting on account of late planting the year before.

The average results of the crop for the same five years are supplied in the following table:—

La.

Year.	TO EACH ACRE CRUSHED.		Tons of Cane to One Ton of Sugar.
	Tons of Cane.	Tons of Sugar.	
1900	11·68	1·28	9·44
1901	15·10	1·55	9·76
1902	10·86	1·30	8·38
1903	13·65	1·52	8·97
1904	16·04	1·78	8·99

The figures for 1904 compare very favourably with those for the previous years. The yield of cane and of sugar to each acre crushed are both greater than in any other year comprised in the table, whilst the sugar contents of the cane was considerably better in 1904 than in either 1900 or 1901, practically equal to that of 1903, but not quite so good as in 1902.

Although these results are satisfactory as far as they go, yet on comparison with the returns obtained in other countries where scientific and better methods of cultivation are adopted they afford scope for reflection. The Director of the Bureau of Sugar Experimental Stations in his last report, with reference to this question, writes:—"During the past fifteen years Louisiana has raised its yield per acre from 15 tons to nearly 30 tons; Hawaii from 25 tons to over 40 tons; and Java from 20 to approaching 40 tons." Experiments by Dr. Maxwell, of which the results are recorded in the same report, conclusively prove that it is not a matter of climate or of soil, but that the same results will be secured in Queensland as soon as the same methods are adopted.

The following table furnishes particulars as to the production of sugar last year in the various districts of the State:—

Lb.

Division and District.	Area for Plants.	Area Stand-over or Unproductive.	Area Crushed for Sugar.	Total Area for Sugar.	Weight of Cane.	Sugar.	Molasses.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Tons.	Tons.	Gallons.
Rockingham—							
Cairns and Douglas	226	3,694	13,108	17,028	223,361	26,563	895,000
Ingham and Mourilyan	463	3,892	15,189	19,544	213,027	26,089	908,544
Total	689	7,586	28,297	36,572	436,388	52,652	1,803,544
Edgecumbe—							
Ayr	64	1,921	4,242	6,227	95,010	10,994	176,760
Bowen	38	729	2,504	3,271	35,709	3,931	140,480
Mackay	318	10,242	17,622	28,182	253,250	28,305	979,815
Total	420	12,892	24,368	37,680	383,969	43,230	1,297,055
Port Curtis—							
Gladstone	2	14	8	24	30	*a*	...
Burnett and Wide Bay—							
Bundaberg and Gin Gin	230	6,680	16,374	23,284	270,171	30,011	785,382
Childers, Maryborough, and Tiaro	112	5,870	10,650	16,632	193,084	17,870	438,770
Gympie	2	110	77	189	1,688	*b*	...
Total	344	12,660	27,101	40,105	464,943	47,881	1,224,152
Moreton—							
Logan	5	1,027	1,142	2,174	12,631	980	36,501
Marburg	18	201	191	410	1,817	120	...
Maroochy	43	1,419	1,215	2,677	21,821	2,345	112,155
Nerang	13	243	419	675	5,390	480	18,000
Total	79	2,890	2,967	5,936	41,659	3,925	166,656
TOTAL STATE	1,534	36,042	82,741	120,317	1,326,989	147,688	4,491,407

a Crushed in Bundaberg. *b* Crushed in Maroochy.

The divisions or groups of petty sessions districts shown in the above table, if Port Curtis and Burnett and Wide Bay are taken together, are practically conterminous with the sugar bounty districts of the Customs Department, the only disturbing factor being Gympie, which, for excise purposes, is combined with the Moreton group.

Of the total area planted with sugar-cane, 74,252 acres, or 62 per cent., and of the total area crushed 52,665 acres, or 64 per cent., were situated north of Rockhampton, in the Rockingham and Edgecumbe divisions, approximately a moiety to each; the first named, although having the lesser area under cultivation, crushed some 4,000 acres more than Edgecumbe. In the Burnett and Wide Day division 40,105 acres, or 33 per cent., of the area planted, and 27,101 acres, or 33 per cent., of the area crushed.

The Rockingham division returned 436,388 tons of cane and 52,652 tons of sugar, or 33 per cent. and 36 per cent. of the total production of the State respectively. Edgecumbe, 383,969 tons of cane and 43,230 tons of sugar, representing 29 per cent. and 29 per cent. of the total output; and Burnett and Wide Bay, 464,943 tons of cane and 47,881 tons of sugar, or proportions of 35 and 32 per cent. The areas in the Gladstone and Moreton groups were inconsiderable, whilst the results were below those of the more Northern districts.

Molasses.—There were six factories, three of them important ones, which failed to return the production of this by-product, reporting that no record was kept of the quantity. From the returns received, it would appear that the output of 1904 was 4,491,407 gallons. Of this 66,300 gallons went to distilleries; 491,501 gallons were sold, chiefly no doubt for the production of golden syrup; 600,415 gallons were fed to stock; 201,600 gallons were used as fuel in the furnaces; 29,200 gallons were returned to the land as manure; 2,304,738 gallons being run to waste; whilst 797,653 gallons were still in store at the end of the year. It is a matter for regret that so large a proportion of this valuable commodity fails to be utilised.

The average returns for the whole State have already been shown in Table L a—namely, 16.4 tons of cane and 1.78 tons of sugar to each acre crushed, and 8.99 tons of cane to each ton of sugar manufactured. Figures furnishing the same information in each petty sessions district or group of districts are shown in the following table:—

L c.

Sugar Averages, 1904.

Divisions or Groups and Districts.	Tons of Cane per Acre Crushed.	Tons of Sugar per Acre Crushed.	Tons of Cane per Ton of Sugar.
Rockingham—			
Cairns and Douglas	17·03	2·03	8·41
Ingham and Mourilyan	14·02	1·72	8·17
Total	15·42	1·86	8·29
Edgecumbe—			
Ayr	22·40	2·59	8·64
Bowen	14·26	1·57	9·08
Mackay	14·37	1·61	8·95
Total	15·76	1·77	8·88
Port Curtis—			
Gladstone	3·75	*	*
Total	3·75	...	...
Burnett and Wide Bay—			
Bundaberg and Gin Gin	16·50	1·83	9·00
Childers, Maryborough, and Tiaro	18·13	1·68	10·80
Gympie	21·92	†	†
Total	17·14	1·77	9·71
Moreton—			
Logan	11·06	0·86	12·89
Marburg	9·51	0·63	15·14
Maroochy	17·96	1·93	9·31
Nerang	12·86	1·15	11·23
Total	14·24	1·29	11·04
Total State	16·04	1·78	8·99

* Crushed in Bundaberg. † Crushed in Maroochy.

Taking the divisions or groups, Burnett and Wide Bay gave the best average yield of cane—viz., 17.14 tons to each acre, Edgecumbe coming next with 15.76 tons, followed by Rockingham 15.42, and Moreton 14.24. The best yield in individual petty sessions districts was in Ayr with 22.40 tons per acre; Gympie, from a small area of 77 acres, coming next with 21.92 tons; no other district averaged 20 tons.

Rockingham division gave the best average return of manufactured sugar per acre—namely, 1.86 tons; Edgecumbe and Wide Bay and Burnett following closely each with 1.77 tons.

The best returns in petty sessions districts was at Ayr, where the fine average yield of 2.59 tons to each acre were obtained; the next best result was at Cairns-Douglas with 2.03 tons per acre; Maroochy, in the Moreton division, ranking third with an average of 1.93 tons to each acre from an area of 1,292 acres.

Excepting that portion of the State south of Rockhampton a great uniformity was displayed in the quantity of sugar obtained from each ton of cane. Over the whole State 1 ton produced 2.22 cwt. of sugar. For the Moreton group the result was 1.81 cwt., and for Burnett and Wide Bay 2.06 cwt.; but the results obtained in the Rockingham and Edgecumbe divisions were more satisfactory—namely, 2.41 cwt. and 2.25 cwt. respectively. The best average yield was secured in the petty sessions districts of Ingham-Mourilyan, where each ton of cane produced 2.45 cwt. of sugar, either as a result of greater saccharine contents of the cane or of its more satisfactory manipulation.

A comparison of the sugar crops of the past two years is portrayed in the following table:—

L d.

Petty Sessions Districts.	Cultivation.			Production.					
				1903.		1904.		Increase or —Decrease in 1904.	
	Area in 1903.	Area in 1904.	Increase or —Decrease in 1904.	Area Crushed.	Sugar.	Area Crushed.	Sugar.	Area Crushed.	Sugar.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.
Ayr	5,481	6,227	746	2,963	7,400	4,242	10,994	1,279	3,594
Bowen	3,047	3,271	224	1,865	2,704	2,504	3,931	639	1,227
Bundaberg, Gin Gin, and Gladstone	21,877	23,308	1,431	5,732	15,691	16,382	47,881	10,650	32,190
Childers, Maryborough, and Tiaro	15,207	16,632	1,425	9,504		10,650		1,146	
Cairns and Douglas	17,141	17,028	— 113	10,957	19,785	13,108	26,563	2,151	6,778
Ingham and Mourilyan	20,171	19,544	— 627	13,777	24,548	15,189	26,089	1,412	1,541
Logan	2,119	2,174	55	833	1,255	1,142	980	309	— 275
Mackay	23,473	28,182	4,709	13,245	18,329	17,622	28,305	4,377	9,976
Marburg	27	410	383	...	...	191	120	191	120
Maroochy and Gympie	2,295	2,866	571	997	1,496	1,292	2,345	295	849
Nerang	629	675	46	502	620	419	480	— 83	— 140
Rockhampton	49	...	— 49	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals, 1903	111,516	...	...	60,375	91,828	...	...	...	...
Totals, 1904	...	120,317	...	...	...	82,741	147,688	...	...
Increase in certain Districts, 1904			9,590	...	...	...	...	22,449	56,275
Decrease in certain Districts, 1904			789	...	...	...	...	83	415
Net Increase in 1904			8,801	...	...	...	...	22,366	55,860
Net Decrease in 1904			...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Of area under cultivation, most of the districts show an increase for 1904; small decreases, however, appear for Cairns-Douglas, Ingham-Mourilyan, whilst Rockhampton ceased to grow sugar. The largest increase was at Mackay, where 4,709 more acres were under cane in 1904 than in the previous year; substantial increases of 1,431 and 1,425 acres were recorded in the two sections of the Burnett and Wide Bay group. Except Nerang, where a small decrease of 83 acres was recorded, every district showed an increase in the area crushed. The Burnett districts stood first with an increase of 10,650 acres, although the increase in area under cane was 1,431 acres only, the hold-over from 1903 being exceptionally large, for in that year 5,732 acres only were crushed out of a total of 21,877 acres. Mackay came next with an increase of 4,377 acres, an area somewhat below the increase in acreage planted, followed by Cairns-Douglas, Ingham-Mourilyan, Ayr, and Childers-Maryborough-Tiaro, in the order named, with increases of 2,151 acres, 1,412 acres, 1,279 acres, and 1,146 acres respectively.

The greatest increase in production was contributed by the Burnett and Wide Day division, where 47,881 tons of sugar were made in 1904, or 32 per cent. of the total output of the State, an increase on the tonnage of the division of 32,190 tons, or 58 per cent. of the total increased production for the year. Other substantial increases were Mackay 9,976 tons, Cairns-Douglas 6,778 tons, and Ayr 3,594 tons.

A comparison of the average returns obtained during 1903 and 1904 reflects most satisfactorily on the experience of the latter year. The following table contains information on this point of much interest:—

L e.

Division.	TO EACH ACRE CRUSHED.				TON CANE TO EACH TON SUGAR.	
	Tons of Cane.		Tons of Sugar.		1903.	1904.
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.		
Rockingham	14·49	15·42	1·79	1·86	8·33	8·29
Edgecumbe	14·30	15·76	1·58	1·77	9·09	8·88
Port Curtis	...	3·75	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*
Burnett and Wide Bay...	10·10	17·14	1·03	1·77	9·80	9·71
Moreton	18·18	14·24	1·45	1·29	12·55	11·04
State	13·65	16·04	1·52	1·79	8·97	8·99

a Crushed in Bundaberg. A small area only.

It will be noted that for the whole State the quantity of cane harvested to each acre exceeded that for the previous year by 2.39 tons, and the quantity of sugar obtained by 0.27 of a ton. The quality of the cane was apparently the same, as practically the same quantity of cane was required to make a ton of sugar in both years—namely, 9 tons. In every division except Moreton the average return of cane to each acre crushed showed an increase in 1904 over the preceding year, the improvement in Burnett and Wide Bay being very marked, advancing from 10.10 in 1903 to 17.14 in 1904. The tonnage of sugar to each acre, which for the whole State was 18 per cent. greater in 1904 than in the previous year, improved by 4 per cent. in Rockingham, by 12 per cent. in Edgecumbe, and by 72 per cent. in Burnett and Wide Bay. There was a decrease of 0.16 of a ton per acre in Moreton. The sugar results from the cane treated showed an improvement in every one of the divisions.

White-grown Cane.—The weight of cane grown and harvested by white labour, as compiled from the agricultural returns, was found to differ slightly from the quantities on which bounty was actually paid. Collected by different methods, this was to be looked for; doubtless, moreover, some of the discrepancies were caused by the Excise authorities rejecting in a few instances the claims made. Inquiries instituted into the matter, however, have enabled me to make a few adjustments, bringing the results to coincide.

There were 25,876 acres of cane returned in 1904 as both grown and harvested by white labour; this was equal to 31 per cent. of the total area crushed. The like area and ratio in 1903 were 17,080 acres and 28 per cent. respectively. The weight of cane harvested under similar conditions was 212,117 tons in 1903 and 379,884 tons in 1904, or ratios to the whole crop of 26 and 29 per cent. respectively.

The following table gives further particulars on this point:—

L f.

RETURNED AS GROWN AND HARVESTED BY WHITE LABOUR.

Rebate.	Petty Sessions District.	Area Crushed for Sugar.	Weight of Cane Harvested.
		Acres.	Tons.
No. 1 at 5s.	Cairns and Douglas	547	10,001
	Ingham and Mourilyan	1,687	22,130
	Total	2,234	32,131
No. 2 at 4s. 8d.	Ayr	860	18,998
	Bowen	1,733	22,945
	Mackay	8,304	124,489
	Total	10,897	166,441
No. 3 at 4s. 4d	Bundaberg, Gin Gin, Gladstone	5,291	69,989
	Childers, Maryborough, and Tiaro	4,827	73,432
	Total	10,118	143,421
No. 4 at 4s.	Logan	1,128	12,474
	Maroochy and Gympie	1,124	20,490
	Nerang	345	4,491
	Marburg	30	436
	Total	2,627	37,891
	Grand total	25,876	379,884

No. 1 rebate district contributed 9 per cent. of the total white-grown area and 8 per cent. of the total white-grown produce; No. 2 district, 42 per cent. and 44 per cent.; No. 3 district, 39 per cent. and 38 per cent.; and No. 4 district, 10 per cent. and 10 per cent. each respectively.

The following are the proportions in each rebate district borne by white-grown cane to the totals, area, and produce respectively:—No. 1 district, 8 per cent. area crushed and 7 per cent. cane harvested; No. 2 district, 45 per cent. and 43 per cent.; No. 3 district, 37 per cent. and 31 per cent.; No. 4 district, 86 per cent. and 87 per cent.

It is impossible to calculate the exact amount of excise payable on the sugar of 94 per cent. net titre, as embraced in this report at the request of the Director of Central Sugar Mills, inasmuch as the excise is collected on the actual weight; moreover, owing to a slight overlapping of dates, the weights would not agree, as the statistical tables cover the season and include sugar actually made in the very early months of 1905.

The following table shows the tonnage of cane and the amount of bonus paid thereon during each of the past three years:—

L g.

—	1902.		1903.		1904.	
	Tonnage of Cane.	Amount of Bonus.	Tonnage of Cane.	Amount of Bonus.	Tonnage of Cane.	Amount of Bonus.
		£		£		£
1st District ...	17,095	4,274	37,660	9,415	32,131	8,002
2nd „ ...	69,899	16,345	106,333	24,811	166,441	38,620
3rd „ ...	13,730	2,974	40,283	8,728	143,421	31,055
4th „	4,579	917	37,500	7,500	37,891	7,534
Total ...	105,303	24,540	221,776	50,454	379,884	85,211

There were fifty-seven establishments engaged in the treatment of sugar and its products during 1904; they included two refineries, four juice mills, and fifty-one sugar mills.

The following table furnishes further particulars:—

L h.

—	Works.	Hands Employed.	VALUE.	
			Machinery.	Land and Premises.
	No.	No.	£	£
Refineries } In operation, 1904	2	276	250,000	55,943
Juice Mills } In operation, 1904	4	68	54,000	1,494
Sugar Mills } In operation, 1904	51	1,952	1,650,920	108,102
Total	57	2,296	1,954,920	165,539

The factories gave employment to 2,296 hands, or 886 more than in 1903, when eighteen mills out of the sixty then existing establishments had been shut down. The large amount of capital invested in the manufacturing branch of this industry is shown in the last two columns of the table.

Provision has been made by the Legislature for the assistance of cultivators of sugar-cane by providing for the establishment of central mills on the mutual system.

The following information, kindly furnished by the Comptroller of Central Mills, shows the financial position as between these mills and the Treasury:—

1. Number of sugar mills to which advances have been made under the Sugar Works Guarantee Act	11		
2. Under other conditions	2		
3. Number of tramway companies under the Sugar Works Guarantee Act	1		
	£	*s.*	*d.*
4. Total amount of advances up to 31st December, 1904	532,786	0	6
5. Under other conditions	52,500	0	0
6. Indebtedness to 31st December, 1904, under Sugar Works Guarantee Act, including special temporary advances	560,864	4	3
7. Under other conditions	22,914	2	8

If the term "consumption" be limited to the meaning conveyed by the actual content of the word the average annual consumption of an article like sugar would be very difficult to determine. Figuring so largely as sugar does as a material in the production of other commodities—commodities, moreover, which are so frequently exported and imported—its having been put to use in a given country by no means determines its actual consumption there. The only means, however, under present circumstances, of arriving at any idea of the extent of its use in the States of the Commonwealth is to add the imports to the production and deduct the exports. On this basis the following table shows the annual consumption of sugar in Australasia and in each State thereof, the estimate being formulated on the experience of a number of years:—

L i.

RETURN showing the ANNUAL CONSUMPTION of SUGAR for the YEAR 1904, based on the AVERAGE ANNUAL CONSUMPTION PER CAPITA of the MEAN POPULATION, for a SERIES of YEARS.

—	Queensland.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Total Federated States.	New Zealand.	Total Australasia
Consumption for the Year 1904—Tons	26,422	67,802	51,752	16,669	10,876	7,345	180,866	39,233	220,099
Average Annual Consumption per Capita for a Series of Years. To the nearest lb.	114	105	96	101	103	92	102	104	103

To arrive at the consumption for alimentary purposes, either of Australasia or of any individual State, it would be necessary to know the amount of sugar used in making articles other than of food, and the quantity contained in articles of food imported and exported, so that there might be added to or subtracted from the relating figures as necessary.

It must be remembered that the figures for the producing States—Queensland and New South Wales—which comprise the whole production of the Commonwealth, represent to a considerable extent raw sugar. This is subsequently refined and passes into consumption at a correspondingly reduced weight, and thus the high per capita consumption of these States is to a slight extent discounted.

The total consumption of the Commonwealth is about 181,000 tons annually, towards which last year Queensland produced 147,688 tons and New South Wales 19,202 tons, so that the production of the Commonwealth for 1904 was within a measurable distance of providing for home requirements.

The following table contains information as to imports and exports of sugar into and from the Commonwealth during 1903:—

L j.

IMPORTS and EXPORTS of SUGAR during 1903 for each AUSTRALIAN STATE from and to places beyond the COMMONWEALTH.

State.	Imports.	Exports.	Net Imports.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Queensland	29	45	— 16
New South Wales	8,169	947	7,222
Victoria	60,161	1,357	58,804
South Australia	23,135	38	23,097
Western Australia	29	...	29
Tasmania	93	...	93
Total Commonwealth	91,616	2,387	89,229

— Excess of Exports.

Of the 89,229 tons of sugar imported in excess of exports, 58,804 tons went into Victoria and 23,097 tons into South Australia, or, together, 92 per cent. of the total net imports.

COTTON.

The British Cotton-growing Association has taken action with the object of furthering the cultivation of cotton in suitable localities within British territory.

The United States, which was for many years the source from which England drew the bulk of her supplies, now requires an annually increasing quantity for her own requirements, and is not only not likely to materially increase the present export, but will certainly considerably decrease it at no distant date, and the association was formed in order to solve the difficulty arising out of the extension of demands made by the British manufacturers.

Advances have been made in support of the industry in India, West Indies, Africa, &c., especial attention being given to foster the production within British territory. At present the chief sources of supply to the United Kingdom are—the United States, which contributes about 76 per cent. of the total; Egypt, about 17; India, about 5 per cent.; and Brazil, about 2 per cent.

It is not probable that extensive areas under one management would prove remunerative in this State, owing to difficulties in connection with labour for picking; yet, no doubt, in small sections, distributed over a number of farms, the crop would prove profitable.

The Government of this State have taken action with a view to assisting the establishment of the industry, and have undertaken to gin all cotton received at an establishment at Ipswich in a clean and dry state; 1d. per lb. will be advanced on cotton in the seed, and the Department will subsequently ship and sell both ginned cotton and seed to the best possible advantage to the growers; and the year 1905 should show a marked increase in the area planted. There were 30 acres under cotton during 1904, as against 2 in the previous year. The yield amounted to 25,832 lb., or about 861 lb. per acre, the latter might be expected to return 344 lb. of clean cotton. As the present market price in England ranges from 4½d. to 7½d. per lb., according to quality, there appears to be a fair opportunity for an extension of the industry to the benefit of the farmer, but in this, as in other agricultural lines, a continuity of supply is essential to secure a full measure of success.

ARROWROOT.

There is little variation in the area devoted to this crop year by year. Most of the tubers raised last year were converted into commercial arrowroot, only about 500 tons being utilised otherwise, mostly as food for pigs. Particulars can be gathered from the following statement:—

M.

District.	1903.		1904.		Increase or Decrease —	
	Area.	Production.	Area.	Production.	Area.	Production.
Rockingham—	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.
Herberton	1	1	2	30	1	29
Mourilyan	40	800	35	350	— 5	— 450
Total Rockingham ...	41	801	37	380	— 4	— 421
Moreton—						
Caboolture	1	9	1	2	...	— 7
Cleveland	...	...	4	45	4	45
Logan	69	622	96	741	27	119
Marburg	...	...	2	5	2	5
Maroochy	17	184	15	202	— 2	18
Nerang	229	3,095	267	2,640	38	— 455
Redcliffe	...	...	1	7	1	7
Rosewood	1	2	2	7	1	5
Woodford	4	20	11	64	7	44
Total Moreton	321	3,932	399	3,713	78	— 219
Other Districts—						
Cook	1	2	1	1	...	— 1
Total State	363	4,735	437	4,094	74	— 641

The bulk of the crop was raised in the Moreton district, on the rich lands forming the valleys of the Logan, Pimpama, and Nerang Rivers. There were 78 acres more cultivated in this division during 1904 than in the previous year, and of this additional area 65 acres were in the Logan and Nerang districts, in which practically all the commercial arrowroot was made. The yield per acre was, however, far from satisfactory, only 9·37 tons of tuber being obtained. Passing over 1902, the year of extreme drought, this was the lowest return obtained for seven years, except in 1901, when practically the same quantity was obtained, and despite the larger areas cultivated, resulted in 641 tons less being obtained than in 1903.

Information respecting the manufacture of this article is given below:—

M a.

District.	Hands Employed.	Tuber.	Arrowroot.
		Tons.	Lb.
Mourilyan	2	350	78,400
Logan	7	645	142,275
Nerang	20	2,598	518,540
Others	...	8	1,500
Total	29	3,601	740,715

The industry of preparing the arrowroot for market gives employment to a limited number of hands only; there were twenty-nine persons thus engaged during 1904. The tubers appear to have been of better quality than was the case in 1903, as a much greater quantity of the manufactured article was obtained from each ton of tuber in the former than in the latter year.

Last year there were 740,715 lb. of arrowroot obtained from 3,601 tons of tuber, or a little over 200 lb. per ton.

In 1903 the average yield per ton was 165 lb. only. The shortage in weight of crop caused by the dry spell at the end of the year 1904 apparently reduced the volume of moisture in the tuber without materially affecting the starch contents. Practically all the export trade in this article is with Australia, but this year I am unable to furnish the quantity sent south, as the Customs authorities have collated values only. Information under this head is given in the following statement:—

M b.

ARROWROOT.

Year.	IMPORTS.		EXPORTS.		PRODUCTION.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Manufacturers' Value.
	Lb.	£	Lb.	£	Lb.	£
1900	13,785	200	463,617	3,534	772,280	3,257
1901	2,830	26	582,069	4,278	704,480	3,554
1902	5,648	59	360,719	3,872	192,702	1,766
1903	264	7	360,748	5,058	683,883	6,903
1904	53	1	*	4,386	740,715	4,082

* Information not furnished in Customs returns.

As probably much of the arrowroot sent away would be packed for retail sale, it would command a higher price per ton than that given by the manufacturers.

TOBACCO.

As foreshadowed in my report for 1903, the average results of this crop for 1904 proved very satisfactory, realising a little more than 9 cwt. to the acre, the best return during the last ten years. The total failure of the crop in 1903 must have greatly disheartened the producers, but although some growers reduced their acreage during 1904, the area placed under cultivation by those who had not hitherto grown tobacco more than compensated for these reductions. Interest in this crop is increasing, and the area planted will probably be considerably extended in the near future. Details respecting area and yield are given in the statement below.

N.

District.	1903.		1904.		Increase or Decrease —	
	Area.	Produce Dried Leaf.	Area.	Produce Dried Leaf.		
Moreton.	Acres.	Cwt.	Acres.	Cwt.	Acres.	Cwt.
Marburg	1	5	...	...	— 1	— 5
Total Moreton	1	5	...	...	— 1	— 5
Downs.						
Goondiwindi	...	...	2	8	2	8
Inglewood	7	25	95	861	88	836
Killarney	...	...	8	121	8	121
Texas	764	587	679	6,135	— 85	5,548
Total Downs	771	612	784	7,125	13	6,513
Total State	772	617	784	7,125	12	6,508

Practically all the tobacco grown is found in the districts of Inglewood and Texas, Goondiwindi and Killarney, where small areas have been planted, being districts in the same vicinity. Several of the most important growers were located in the Texas district. Of these, as already stated, some placed less under cultivation than in the previous year, whilst the fresh plantations which compensated for this were found in Inglewood, where 88 more acres were returned as under this crop than in 1903. The total yield amounted to 7,125 cwt. of dried leaf, whereas only 617 cwt. were returned in the previous year.

The requirements of the State above the quantity produced can be gathered from the following table:—

N a.

Year.	Tobacco, &c.	Imported.	Entered for Home Consumption.
		Lb.	Lb.
1903	Manufactured	1,136,279	*1,068,055
	Unmanufactured	70,668	27,205
	Cigars	40,855	*44,567
	Cigarettes	112,367	*113,795
	Snuff	493	*619
	Total	1,360,662	1,254,241
1904	Manufactured	1,062,013	*1,035,024
	Unmanufactured	10,290	*272
	Cigars	41,636	*42,127
	Cigarettes	120,381	*98,499
	Snuff	591	*571
	Total	1,234,911	1,176,493

* Including imports, produce of other States, duty free.

The quantity consumed appears to be about 42 oz. per capita. This, though high, is exceeded in some countries, as will be seen from figures given by Mulhall in his Dictionary of Statistics, as follows:—United Kingdom, 23 oz.; France, 29 oz.; Germany, 48 oz.; Belgium, 84 oz.; and Switzerland, 82 oz. Naturally the larger proportion of adults in Queensland would have the effect of materially raising the per capita consumption; the quantity required per head of the adult male population would be about 8½ lb.

The quantity of tobacco manufactured within the State has fallen off greatly during the past few years.

Over 700,000 lb. were manufactured in Queensland in 1901, as compared with a little over 200,000 lb. last year. The manufacture of cigarettes ceased in 1901.

The crop for the current year now harvested is considered by the Government expert to be a considerable improvement on that for 1904, especially in quality. Mr. Neville reports that farmers are taking more pains, are importing seed of improved varieties, and consequently are reaping the benefit of their foresight in a better quality of cured leaf. The tobacco-sheds are all full, and in some instances stocks held for several years were quitted, probably as a consequence of the need for more room to house the then maturing new crop.

COFFEE.

Although there was a slightly reduced area under coffee during 1904, this resulted more from the final desertion of areas previously neglected than from any fresh abandonment of operations on the part of cultivators. Particulars respecting the crop are as follows:—

O.

District.	Not yet Bearing.		Bearing.				Average Yield per acre (Bearing).		1904. Increase or Decrease—Bearing Area.	1904. Increase or Decrease
	1903.	1904.	1903.		1904.		1903.	1904.		
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Lb.	Acres.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Acres.	Lb.
Rockingham—										
Cairns	...	3	144	41,848	146	35,549	291	243	2	— 6,299
Douglas	5	...	16	8,404	16	8,800	525	550	...	396
Herberton	2	...	4	2,460	6	10,980	615	1,830	2	8,520
Mareeba	1	...	12	5,020	6	700	418	117	— 6	— 4,320
Mourilyan	...	...	30	15,680	26	16,000	523	615	— 4	320
Total Rockingham ...	8	3	206	73,412	200	72,029	356	360	— 6	— 1,383
Edgecumbe—										
Mackay...	11	5	50	2,780	44	27,070	56	615	— 6	24,290
Port Curtis—										
Rockhampton	14	14	3	500	3	560	167	187	...	60
Wide Bay and Burnett—										
Maryborough	30	5	6	8	7	4,704	1	672	1	4,696
Moreton—										
Dugandan	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Maroochy	11	13	36	5,562	38	28,191	155	742	2	22,629
Total Moreton	13	13	36	5,562	38	28,191	155	742	2	22,629
Other Districts—										
Cook	...	10	17	1,370	...	...	81	...	— 17	— 1,370
Total State	76	50	318	83,632	292	132,554	265	454	— 26	48,922

In Maryborough over 20 acres of young trees died, and in Cook one plantation was deserted, and in another the whole of the trees were killed by flood, and the ground was afterwards replanted. The total yield of coffee was 132,554 lb. fit for the market, more than 50 per cent. better than in 1903, when only 83,632 lb. were gathered. The yield per acre also rose in even better ratio, being 454 and 265 lb. per acre respectively. The far northern portion of the State, in the vicinity of Cairns, is the principal seat of coffee culture, 149 out of a total of 342 acres being there located. Some attention is paid to the cultivation of the shrub in the Maroochy district, where on the slopes of the Blackall Range 51 acres were in bearing, and the yield secured therefrom should have proved very satisfactory to the growers, an average of 742 lb. per acre being obtained, exceeding that for all other districts, except a small area at Herberton.

PUMPKINS AND MELONS.

This is a crop which must be grown in time to mature within the summer months of the year. It is frequently planted between the rows of the second crop of maize, in order that the plants whilst young may be sheltered from the scorching effect of the sun, and the area was curtailed in consequence of the small spring planting of that cereal. Unfortunately, the latter part of 1904 was characterised by a small rainfall, and culminated towards the termination of the year with a hot wind which had a disastrous effect on both these, as well as several other crops. Only 8,991 acres were planted against 18,833 acres in the previous year, and the yield in somewhat like ratio declined from 62,102 to 30,970 tons. Full particulars respecting this crop will be found in the detailed tables in the Appendix to this report.

FRUIT.

There was a marked increase in the attention paid to the orchard during 1904, and before many years elapse it appears probable that a number of the various descriptions of fruit which have hitherto been imported will be produced within our own borders, at least in sufficient quantities to meet our

requirements, if not, indeed, to form an article of export. The extended areas that have been placed under apples and other deciduous fruits point to the fact that there are many sites suitable for their cultivation, and although time must be given for young trees to come into bearing, returns have been received relating to a sufficient number to prove the remunerative nature of the crop in Queensland. The system of collection initiated last year, of recording the number of trees of each description of fruit proves much more satisfactory than the previous method of returning the acreage, as many small orchards are now recorded which under the former practice escaped collection.

Altogether there were 2,013,500 fruit trees of all kinds returned during 1904, the principal (with the figures for 1903 in brackets) being vines, 1,530,364 (1,448,300); oranges, 278,989 (265,240); apples, 46,151 (39,870); mangoes, 33,991 (33,830); peaches, 35,727 (33,210); plums, 19,906 (19,350). The average yield per tree shows a marked general improvement on the results for 1903, viz.:—Vines, 2·02 lb. (1·63); oranges, 10·11 dozen (4·34); apples, 0·42 bushels (0·46); mangoes, 25·38 dozen (9·66); peaches, 0·78 bushels (0·97); plums, 0·62 bushels (0·71). Of course, in all cases where a large increase in the number of trees has taken place the average yield would be considerably affected. The returns would be too voluminous if provision were made for eliminating non-bearing trees in the case of every description of fruit.

VINES, GRAPES, AND WINE.

The results obtained from vines varied considerably in different parts of the State; the gross yield was, however, materially better than in 1903, and this over a larger area of matured vines than in that year. The results for the past two years were as follow:—

Q.

Year.	VINEYARD.			Grapes Gathered.	Average Yield.
	Acres Bearing.	Acres not yet Bearing.	Total.		
				Lb.	Lb.
1903	1,486	583	2,069	2,362,520	1,590
1904	1,647	547	2,194	3,087,835	1,875

Last year there were 125 acres more returned as under the vine than in the previous year, the yield of grapes was 725,315 lb. better, and the average per acre 285 lb. greater. The yield per acre falls considerably short of the quantity obtained in the earlier years of the decade, when over a ton to each acre was gathered for several years in succession. The results of the crop in the principal centres of its cultivation are given below:—

Q a.

Petty Sessions District.	AREA UNDER VINES.								
	1903.			1904.			Increase or Decrease—in Latter Year.	1903.	1904.
	Bearing.	Not yet Bearing.	Total Area.	Bearing.	Not yet Bearing.	Total Area.		Grapes Gathered.	Grapes Gathered.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Lb.	Lb.
Allora	41	7	48	6	5	45	— 3	42,980	72,934
Clifton				32	2				
Brisbane	166	113	279	233	67	300	21	383,390	410,148
Gatton	100	17	117	91	23	114	— 3	163,444	249,562
Gympie	38	17	55	32	17	49	— 6	29,835	37,345
Highfields	29	5	34	40	3	43	9	53,454	105,606
Logan	58	10	68	73	18	91	23	86,731	109,457
Maryborough	49	18	67	45	14	59	— 8	57,727	73,588
Rockhampton	79	4	83	69	2	71	— 12	64,913	114,560
Roma	167	228	395	216	206	422	27	312,692	322,626
Rosewood	70	1	71	59	29	88	17	30,624	48,490
South Brisbane	122	11	133	125	12	137	4	239,274	247,061
Stanthorpe	23	24	47	26	41	67	20	53,392	50,832
Toowoomba	188	21	209	201	10	211	2	313,231	391,401
Warwick	40	7	47	44	4	48	1	44,236	66,250
All other Districts	316	100	416	355	94	459	41	486,597	687,975
Total	1,486	583	2,069	1,647	547	2,194	125	2,362,520	3,087,835

It will be noticed that Roma has again added a few acres to the area cultivated. This district suffered most of all with the drought, and replanted 207 acres in 1903. The yield in this district for 1904 was, however, far from satisfactory, only returning 1,494 lb. per acre, the dry weather at the end of the year proving prejudicial to the crop. The results in the Brisbane district, the next in importance, suffered from the same cause, but hardly to the same extent, as the yield per acre was 1,761 lb., but the falling-off in the average at Roma was proportionately greater. In Toowoomba, although some of the vineyards were adversely affected by hailstorms, the returns were much better—viz., an average of 1,947 lb. per acre, which was considerably better than that for the previous year. In South Brisbane, the yield rose from 1,961 lb. in 1903 to 1,976 lb. last year. Gatton was the only other district returning not less than 100 acres, and there upwards of a ton per acre was obtained—viz., 2,742 lb. against 1,634 lb.

in 1903. The principal districts with the average yield per acre for the past five years are compared below:—

Q b.

—	1900. Average per Acre.	1901. Average per Acre.	1902. Average per Acre.	1903. Average per Acre.	1904. Average per Acre.
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
Brisbane	2,976	3,002	2,536	2,310	1,761
Roma...	535	1,936	1,358	1,872	1,494
South Brisbane	2,917	2,699	1,827	1,961	1,976
Toowoomba	3,807	4,213	2,601	1,666	1,947
Total State	2,096	2,403	1,755	1,590	1,875

WINE-MAKING.

Particulars respecting this industry are given below:—

Q c.

Years.	Number of Makers.	antity of Wine Made.	Quantity of Brandy Distilled.
		Gallons.	Gallons.
1900	556	132,489	1,055
1901	538	148,835	1,112
1902	391	100,852	2,199
1903	251	38,558	692
1904	309	60,433	574

Although a slight improvement on the figures of 1903 is apparent, there does not seem to be much hope of a material expansion of the industry for the present. Information as to the number of makers and the quantity of wine made in each district is as follows:—

Q d.

1904.

Petty Sessions District.	Number of Makers.	Quantity of Wine Made.	Quantity of Brandy Distilled.
		Gallons.	Gallons.
Brisbane	14	6,289	174
Gatton	19	2,364	...
Highfields	54	5,452	...
Laidley	15	1,153	...
Logan	35	2,464	...
Roma	5	8,530	400
South Brisbane	19	5,339	...
Toowoomba	72	10,271	...
All other Districts	76	18,571	...
Total	309	60,433	574

The number of "makers" in a district gives no indication as to the quantity of wine made there. Most of those returning wine are small farmers who frequently manufacture sufficient for their own consumption, so that much of the wine returned is not intended for sale.

BANANAS.

There was a material reduction in 1904 in the area under bananas at Mourilyan—namely, 705 acres, or 2,848 acres in that year against 3,553 acres in 1903—caused by a number of Chinese growers having left this locality. This has, however, been more than compensated for by accessions in the adjoining districts of Cairns and Cardwell. In the aggregate there were 103 more acres utilised as banana plantations than was the case in 1903. Particulars respecting the crop for the past two years are given below:—

R.

District.	Area.		Production.		Increase, or Decrease –	
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.	Area.	Quantity.
	Acres.	Acres.	Bunches.	Bunches.	Acres.	Bunches.
Brisbane	253	264	22,438	51,885	11	29,447
Cairns	1,070	1,481	156,977	267,036	411	110,059
Cardwell	213	521	31,175	167,620	308	136,445
Logan	188	155	29,580	19,516	– 33	– 10,064
Maroochy	595	583	54,452	82,889	– 12	28,437
Maryborough	146	159	16,648	19,827	13	3,179
Mourilyan	3,553	2,848	746,945	1,287,528	– 705	540,583
Redcliffe	157	160	9,220	33,300	3	24,080
All other Districts	402	509	45,143	47,205	107	2,062
Total	6,577	6,680	1,112,578	1,976,806	103	864,228

Not only was there a larger acreage, but the returns per acre were much more satisfactory, there being an average return of 296 bunches per acre in 1904 against 169 bunches in the previous year. Even this, however, falls considerably short of the average obtained in 1900 and 1901, when 373 and 401 bunches respectively were obtained. The large additional area in Cairns has, however, much to do with reducing the general average, as being newly planted areas normal averages could not be looked for.

In Mourilyan, 2,848 acres yielded 1,287,528 bunches, with the very satisfactory yield of 452 bunches per acre. This district provided 43 per cent. of the total area and 65 per cent. of the total production. The averages of three other important centres were:—Cairns, 180 bunches per acre; Cardwell, 322 bunches; and Maroochy, 142 bunches.

PINEAPPLES.

Until comparatively recently pineapples were not much in evidence except in the Brisbane district. That locality still maintains its position as the principal centre, yet the areas cultivated elsewhere has increased in greater proportions. The crops for 1903 and 1904 respectively are compared below:—

S.

District.	1903.		1904.		Increase or Decrease—	
	Area.	Production.	Area.	Production.	Area.	Production.
	Acres.	Dozen.	Acres.	Dozen.	Acres.	Dozen.
Brisbane	601	155,370	731	230,155	130	74,785
Caboolture	35	5,794	49	6,890	14	1,096
Cairns	73	20,330	60	24,420	— 13	4,090
Cleveland	150	28,503	215	36,647	65	8,144
Logan	206	53,553	243	67,701	37	14,148
Maroochy	107	18,514	158	18,617	51	103
Maryborough	77	16,807	87	27,205	10	10,398
Redcliffe	46	6,413	35	5,160	— 11	— 1,253
Rockhampton	28	6,567	36	6,109	8	— 458
South Brisbane	32	8,780	38	7,652	6	— 1,128
All other Districts	138	20,296	129	23,243	— 9	3,042
Total	1,493	340,832	1,781	453,799	288	112,967

It will be seen that the bulk of the cultivation was located in the Moreton division, principally in the districts of Brisbane, Cleveland, Logan, and Maroochy. The yield per acre was somewhat better than in 1903—viz., 255 dozen against 228 dozen—but, excepting 1902, when 237 dozen were returned, the yield per acre was lower than for any other year of the decade.

ORANGES.

The orange crop proved most successful, the return obtained being the best for the last ten years and more than double that for most of them. Details respecting the crop are as follow:—

T.

Petty Sessions District.	Area.		Bearing. 1904.	Not yet bearing 1904.	Production.		Increase, or Decrease—	
	1903.	1904.	Area.	Area.	1903.	1904.	Area.	Production.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Dozen.	Dozen.	Acres.	Dozen.
Bowen	131	153	95	58	29,299	140,268	22	110,969
Brisbane	60	57	39	18	8,392	58,589	— 3	50,197
Bundaberg ...	52	46	37	9	1,676	27,039	— 6	25,363
Caboolture... ...	62	62	32	30	15,935	56,418	...	40,483
Cairns	74	97	56	41	48,810	65,391	23	16,581
Cardwell	161	179	79	100	110,370	115,421	18	5,051
Charters Towers ...	25	29	20	9	18,130	48,872	4	30,742
Cleveland	40	37	14	23	8,296	8,898	— 3	602
Cook	50	49	41	8	58,250	40,060	— 1	— 18,190
Douglas	67	76	55	21	88,813	42,520	9	— 46,293
Gatton	143	183	161	22	54,254	494,968	40	440,714
Gympie	77	60	37	23	13,825	41,802	— 17	27,977
Herberton	31	32	23	9	45,605	63,339	1	17,734
Logan	127	135	68	67	93,423	97,523	8	4,100
Mackay	25	36	32	4	40,279	43,448	11	3,169
Maroochy	673	713	283	430	134,009	441,852	40	307,843
Maryborough ...	346	312	179	133	63,981	345,071	— 34	281,090
Mourilyan	29	31	27	4	3,021	24,347	2	21,326
Nerang	135	142	67	75	104,018	159,807	7	55,789
Redcliffe	22	24	18	6	10,486	18,920	2	8,434
Rockhampton ...	90	97	68	29	20,384	68,949	7	48,565
South Brisbane ...	56	51	28	23	11,749	36,013	— 5	24,264
Tiaro	56	47	26	21	9,005	35,221	— 9	26,216
Toowoomba ...	56	46	37	9	29,111	38,076	— 10	8,965
All other Districts...	348	412	268	144	129,393	306,857	64	177,464
Total	2,936	3,106	1,790	1,316	1,150,514	2,819,669	170	1,669,155

The pride of place now rests with Maroochy, where 713 acres were cultivated, this district having left Maryborough, formerly the principal centre, far in arrears. In this district there were 430 acres yet to come into bearing, pointing to a large expansion of production in the near future, by which time it is to be hoped that a regular export trade oversea may be established.

A trial shipment sent to England in 1904 was not altogether a success. Not only was the fruit packed to some extent inferior in quality, but various delays prior to shipment resulted in their reaching their destination in indifferent condition. It has, however, been clearly shown that, with selected fruit and reasonable care in shipment, oranges should reach England in perfect condition; and, as the time when they would arrive—viz., August-November—is that when the shipments from elsewhere are few and the quality poor, there appears to be a good opening in connection with the trade in this fruit. Of the 3,106 acres in the State shown to be under oranges only 1,790 acres had sufficiently matured to be bearing, leaving 1,316 acres yet to become productive, showing the large additions made to orangeries during the past few years. The bearing area produced 2,819,669 dozen, an average per acre of 1,575 dozen, or, in round figures, about 17½ dozen per tree.

Owing to the large accessions to the acreage in recent years many of the trees recorded as bearing must necessarily have been so young as to have yielded small crops, and thus, in computing averages, have discounted the more favourable returns of the mature trees.

A better average even than that for 1904 may, therefore, be confidently expected within the next few years. For similar reasons the yield per acre in districts varies considerably, affected largely by the length of time during which the cultivation has been established, or the proportion of it that is new orchard. Thus Maroochy does not appear to such advantage as several other districts, notably Gatton, where there have not been any considerable additions to the area under oranges within recent years, the yields per acre being:—Maroochy, 1,561 dozen; Maryborough, 1,928 dozen; Gatton, 3,074 dozen; and Bowen, 1,477 dozen.

MANGOES.

This is a crop which only yields freely in alternate years; the return for 1904 was very satisfactory, as will be seen from the following table:—

U.

District.	Area.		Bearing. 1904.	Not yet Bearing. 1904.	Production.		Increase, or Decrease – 1904.	
	1903.	1904.			1903.	1904.		
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Dozen.	Dozen.	Acres.	Dozen.
Bowen	25	31	28	3	40,108	47,678	6	7,570
Brisbane	18	16	10	6	3,600	6,223	– 2	2,623
Bundaberg	21	28	26	2	1,833	49,130	7	47,297
Cleveland	15	15	9	6	2,150	1,237	...	– 913
Cook	16	15	13	2	39,996	78,610	– 1	38,614
Douglas	3	11	10	1	700	79,730	8	79,030
Ingham	3	10	9	1	15,100	18,590	7	3,490
Logan	38	30	19	11	17,552	2,565	– 8	– 14,987
Mackay	44	29	26	3	88,549	215,526	– 15	126,977
Maryborough	35	36	27	9	4,152	48,344	1	44,192
Mourilyan	15	13	12	1	2,652	1,862	– 2	– 790
Rockhampton	29	25	20	5	12,597	30,986	– 4	18,389
South Brisbane	11	14	9	5	3,065	5,537	3	2,472
Tiaro	12	11	6	5	4,253	1,015	– 1	– 3,238
Townsville	16	17	13	4	29,324	73,158	1	43,834
All other Districts	76	81	55	26	61,326	201,401	5	140,075
Total	377	382	292	90	326,957	861,592	5	534,635

There was but little variation in the acreage as returned in the previous year, but the yield increased from 326,957 dozen to 861,592 dozen. Mackay returned the largest area under mangoes in 1903, but a larger number of trees were recorded in 1904 in several other districts. Slight fluctuations will occur in the collections year by year, as in many cases the aggregate is composed of a large number of growers each returning a few trees only; when the crop is indifferent some are overlooked by the collector and again recorded in the next favourable season. It is to be regretted that the results of this crop, which is at times such a prolific one, cannot be profitably disposed of on such occasions.

STRAWBERRIES.

Not only was the whole of the area which in the drought went out of cultivation recovered during 1904, but a further acreage was planted with this fruit. Details respecting the crop are as follows:—

V.

Petty Sessions District.	Area.		Production.		Increase or Decrease –	
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.	1904.	1904.
	Acres.	Acres.	Quarts.	Quarts.	Acres.	Quarts.
Brisbane	4	9	5,150	7,928	5	2,778
Bundaberg	4	5	3,450	3,652	1	202
Cleveland	20	44	38,540	68,499	24	29,959
Maroochy	39	78	63,230	86,311	39	23,081
South Brisbane	14	14	40,800	15,722	...	– 25,078
All other Districts	10	11	8,770	5,414	1	– 3,356
Total	91	161	159,940	187,526	70	27,586

The slopes of the Blackall Range in the district of Maroochy constitute the area most given to the cultivation of this fruit, although an important advance has been made in the district surrounding Cleveland, on the opposite side of the metropolis. In 1904, 161 acres were cultivated, being an increase of 70 acres on the area for 1903, and 22 acres more than that of 1901, the largest previously recorded. The return per acre was, however, not satisfactory, being only 1,165 quarts per acre, or less than half what might be expected in a favourable season, the continued dry weather, and the hot wind alluded to in the earlier part of this report, having had a very prejudicial effect on the crop. The averages for the principal districts were:—Cleveland, 1,557 quarts per acre; South Brisbane, 1,123; and Maroochy, 1,107. This is less than was obtained in the previous year, when 1,927, 2,914, and 1,621 quarts respectively were obtained, equal to a reduction for each acre of 370 quarts, 1,791 quarts, and 514 quarts in the order named, a difference which would be severely felt by the growers in the monetary value of their crop.

APPLES.

The increase in the area placed under this crop was practically confined to the Stanthorpe district, which promises within a few years to attain considerable importance as a fruit-growing centre. Particulars respecting the crop are as follows:—

W.

District.	Area.		Increase, or Decrease—1904.	Bearing. 1904.	Not yet Bearing. 1904.	Production.		Increase, or Decrease—1904.
	1903.	1904.				1903.	1904.	
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
Allora	9	5	5	3	2	78	397	781
Clifton	...	9		6	3	...	462	
Beaudesert	8	6	– 2	5	1	362	309	– 53
Dalby	4	6	2	3	3	75	202	127
Herberton	7	5	– 2	3	2	163	165	2
Highfields	3	6	3	5	1	267	571	304
Killarney	9	6	– 3	5	1	311	207	– 104
Stanthorpe	328	403	75	195	208	12,693	12,870	177
Toowoomba	35	27	– 8	25	2	3,028	2,619	– 409
Warwick	8	12	4	11	1	373	203	– 170
All other Districts	32	31	– 1	19	12	1,045	1,157	112
Total	443	516	73	280	236	18,395	19,162	767

A few trees are to be found scattered throughout many other parts of the State, but four-fifths of the total area is located at Stanthorpe, as previously stated, 403 out of a total of 516 acres being grown in this district; 208 acres of this area had not come into bearing in 1904, an increase of nearly 80 acres on the figures of 1903. From the 195 acres returned as yielding a crop, 12,870 bushels of fruit were obtained, equal to 66 bushels per acre. This was slightly below the average of the whole State—viz., 68 bushels per acre—and doubtless results from the large proportionate area of young trees which have come into bearing in recent years and yet have not attained full maturity.

OTHER FRUITS.

Table XI., of the Appendix, gives information respecting fruits which are not as yet grown generally or are in areas too small to warrant inclusion in the general tables.

Apricots.—There were 47 acres with a yield of 3,225 bushels returned for 1904. The culture of this fruit does not expand as fast as the demand for it warrants.

Cherries.—No advance appears to have been made with this fruit; 36 acres were returned, with a yield of 191 bushels.

Cocoanuts.—These are at present entirely returned from various islands in Torres Strait, &c.; 6,858 dozen were gathered from 520 acres, but as the trees are not so much cultivated as planted in detached areas, the acreage quoted is not very reliable. All up the coast within the tropics the islands were some years ago planted at Government expense with this fruit, the primary object being to provide a standby for any victims of wrecks. These have recently come into bearing, and steps are now being taken to lease the right to gather fruit, more from a desire to protect the palms than for the sake of the revenue to be derived.

Cape Gooseberries.—This crop self-sows very freely, and appears to spring spontaneously from freshly-burnt scrub land in the coastal districts, notably on the Blackall Range. There were 34 acres under this crop last year, from which 16,174 quarts were obtained. The fruit is principally used for making jam.

Plums.—These are grown in small areas in most parts of the State. In 1904, 226 acres yielded 12,286 bushels.

Peaches.—From 401 acres 27,834 bushels were obtained. The fruit suffered greatly from the fly during the year.

Amongst other fruits were:—Almonds, 2 acres, 8 bushels; custard apples, 24 acres, 1,207 bushels; figs, 8 acres, 370 bushels; lemons, 51 acres, 26,296 dozen; passion fruit, 34 acres, 5,737 bushels; pears, 36 acres, 1,914 bushels; persimmons, 17 acres, 1,094 bushels; quinces, 13 acres, 1,601 bushels; besides small areas under olives, the fruit of which was fed to pigs, a few walnuts and dates, the latter being reported as bearing a small crop.

OTHER VEGETABLES.

Table XI. of the Appendix contains details respecting these crops. A summary of the chief items is given below:—

W a.

—	1903.		1904.	
	Acres.	Produce.	Acres.	Produce.
Beans	55	5,335 bushels	72	6,366 bushels
Cabbages	556	212,538 dozen	459	177,461 dozen
Cucumbers	233	91,386 dozen	257	101,139 dozen
Onions	147	10,026 cwt.	55	3,611 cwt.
Peas	75	6,423 bushels	76	6,233 bushels
Tomatoes	343	36,873 bushels	318	34,882 bushels
Turnips	289	2,763 tons	172	1,245 tons
Yams	96	82 tons	87	73 tons

It is to be regretted that more attention is not paid to the production of onions and the money saved that is annually sent out of the State for this necessary vegetable. A considerable portion of the tomato and cucumber crop is sent to southern markets, where these vegetables are readily saleable. Maturing early in the season in advance of the local crops, they are then much in demand there at satisfactory figures.

MISCELLANEOUS CROPS.

Information respecting minor crops not tabulated elsewhere will be found in Table XI. of the Appendix.

Broom Millet.—Practically the area devoted to this plant was doubled during 1904, having increased from 123 acres to 243 acres; the yield per acre was also much better, viz., 654 lb. as against 439 lb in 1903. Two cultivators ceased to grow millet in Toowoomba, causing the only material reduction in area recorded. Information respecting the crop is given below:—

X.

Division and District.	BROOM.				Increase or — Decrease.	Increase or — Decrease.	AVERAGE YIELD PER ACRE.	
	1903.		1904.				1903.	1904.
	Acres.	Lb.	Acres.	Lb.	Acres.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
Rockingham—								
Herberton	...	...	15	4,500	15	4,500	...	300
Edgecumbe—								
Bowen	...	...	1	672	1	672	...	672
Burnett and Wide Bay—								
Bundaberg	...	...	4	3,330	4	3,330	...	833
Gympie	2	1,344	...	...	— 2	— 1,344	672	...
Moreton—								
Beaudesert	7	2,640	15	7,220	8	4,580	377	481
Dugandan	14	5,020	48	31,220	34	26,200	359	650
Gatton	21	2,700	14	9,438	— 7	6,738	129	674
Ipswich	2	400	...	...	— 2	— 400	200	...
Laidley	14	6,772	57	32,364	43	25,592	484	568
Logan	25	12,208	58	52,945	33	40,737	488	913
Nerang	...	...	11	5,500	11	5,500	...	500
Downs—								
Killarney	...	...	3	2,240	3	2,240	...	747
Toowoomba	34	22,868	9	6,720	— 25	— 16,148	673	737
Warwick	...	...	6	2,000	6	2,000	...	333
Maranoa—								
Roma	4	20	...	...	— 4	— 20	5	...
Other Districts—								
Springsure	...	...	2	800	2	800	...	400
Total	123	53,972	243	158,949	120	104,977	439	654

A material advance in the industry connected with this product took place during last year, our broom manufacturers utilising 123,757 lb., or 47,405 lb. more than in the previous year. Of the quantity so worked up, 88,678 lb. were grown in Queensland, practically half the crop being still in the hands of the farmers awaiting sale. Particulars respecting the consumption of broom millet are as follows:—

X a.

Year.	Total.	Queensland Grown.	Grown Elsewhere.
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
1900	107,520	84,000	23,520
1901	139,440	34,720	104,720
1902	172,127	34,828	137,299
1903	76,352	32,564	43,788
1904	123,757	88,678	35,079
Mean of Five Years	123,839	54,958	68,881

Other Miscellaneous Crops.—There are a number of crops which it has been proved can be successfully cultivated in Queensland, both soil and climate being most suitable; but many of them have not yet been produced in sufficient quantities for export as a raw material for manufacture, and as the cultivators are consequently unable to find a market no advance is made in the production.

The Peanut is one of the class referred to; this is utilised for the manufacture of an oil scarcely distinguishable from olive oil. Marseilles is the great centre of this industry, but the supply is not equal to the demand. The quantity imported there exceeds 100,000 tons per annum, and their import value is given at about £14 per ton. The average yield in Queensland last year was but little over half a ton per acre, but records show that this return might be more than doubled.

Canary Seed.—A considerable area of this was planted during 1904—viz., 254 acres, yielding 192,614 lb.

Cassava.—Ten acres were planted with this crop, and the yield over the major portion was fairly satisfactory. It is solely used for pig food, after exposure to the sun for a time, to eliminate the poison which in its natural state it contains.

Mangel Wurzel.—There was a slight increase in the area under this root in 1904—namely, from 164 acres in 1903 to 197 last year, although the yield—1,914 tons—might be improved on.

Sisal Hemp.—This plant yields a return in about three to five years. Of that planted up to the present sufficient has not yet matured to furnish any quantity of fibre to be of commercial importance. This plant gives best results in comparatively inferior soil, and those who have planted on rich lands are likely to meet with disappointment.

HAY CROPS.

Both the detailed tables of agriculture and Table No. XII. of the Appendix show the results under this head. The stocks in hand at the commencement of last year were in many cases sufficiently large to tend to defer further crops being sown in 1904, whilst the embargo placed on the export of this class of produce as a result of quarantine was calculated to prevent expansion of production. Particulars respecting the crop are summarised below:—

Y.

—	Area.		Increase or Decrease —	Production.		Increase or Decrease —
	1903.	1904.		1903.	1904.	
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Wheat	6,189	3,137	– 3,052	10,665	3,608	– 7,057
Oats	19,523	9,076	– 10,447	32,910	11,549	– 21,361
Lucerne	49,501	35,009	– 14,492	86,664	62,970	– 23,694
Other	3,180	1,518	– 1,662	5,878	2,535	– 3,343
Total	78,393	48,740	– 29,653	136,117	80,662	– 55,455

Practically little else but oats and lucerne are utilised for hay in Queensland. Areas which in previous years were devoted to hay in 1904 were either grazed or the produce cut green. The loss of the area grazed over accounted for nearly half the reduced area under cultivation for the year.

GREEN FORAGE CROPS.

Full particulars will be found in the Appendix Table No. XIII. There was an increase in the area so utilised of 9,285 acres, largely due to the requirements of the dairy farmer.

ARTIFICIALLY SOWN PASTURE.

Much of this consists of lucerne paddocks, which are utilised either for hay or pasture, according to requirements, the area under "fodder crops" being therefore a much varying quantity. No less than 35,589 acres were returned under this head in 1904, being an increase of 19,950 acres on the figures for the previous year. If all three items for fodder were taken together, the figures for 1903 and 1904 would practically coincide, but as artificial pasture is not included as cultivated land, the fluctuations under this head have a disturbing effect on the extent under crop.

Z.

District.	1903.	1904.	Increase. 1904.	Decrease. 1904.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Allora	2,064	1,047	...	1,017
Beaudesert	381	335	...	46
Clifton*	...	3,845	3,845	...
Crow's Nest	204	5,303	5,099	...
Dalby	250	888	638	...
Dugandan	77	315	238	...
Esk	488	991	503	...
Gatton	393	2,348	1,955	...
Herberton	1,077	1,406	329	...
Highfields	174	963	789	...
Ipswich	4	480	476	...
Killarney	100	278	178	...
Maroochy	1,499	2,602	1,103	...
Nanango	446	1,305	859	...
Nerang	736	695	...	41
Toowoomba	4,733	8,334	3,601	...
Warwick	1,139	2,685	1,546	...
Woodford	367	766	399	...
All other Districts	1,507	1,033	...	504
Total State	15,639	35,589	19,950	...

* Previously included in Allora.

ENSILAGE.

There was an increase in the quantity made during 1904, as shown below:—

Z a.

District.	1903.	1904.	Increase. 1904.	Decrease. 1904.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Allora	80	250	170	...
Barcaldine	12	...	...	12
Brisbane	...	15	15	...
Cairns	20	60	40	...
Clifton*	...	13	13	...
Crow's Nest	4	28	24	...
Dalby	100	...	...	100
Esk	13	2	...	11
Gin Gin	2	...	...	2
Gladstone	...	2	2	...
Gympie	150	...	...	150
Goodna	25	...	...	25
Harrisville	186	...	...	186
Inglewood	...	27	27	...
Ipswich	10	...	...	10
Laidley	...	10	10	...
Marburg	20	...	...	20
Maroochy	14	...	...	14
Nanango	142	...	...	142
Nerang	44	...	...	44
Rockhampton	...	1,100	1,100	...
Roma	...	35	35	...
Springsure	20	...	...	20
Toowoomba	368	193	...	175
Townsville	25	...	...	25
Warwick	38	...	...	38
Total	1,273	1,735	462	...

* Previously included in Allora.

If it had not been for the quantity made at Rockhampton, the returns would have shown a marked decrease on those of the preceding year. Fourteen districts where ensilage was stacked in 1903 failed to increase their store during 1904. As ensilage is practically an unsaleable article, no serious attention appears to be paid to this method of conserving green fodder.

I am indebted to the Chief Compiler, Mr. Shackel, for assistance in the preparation of this report.

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Government Statistician.

Government Statistician's Office,
Brisbane, 6th July, 1905.

APPENDIX.

Table No. I.

RETURN OF THE NUMBER OF HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, AND PIGS IN THE VARIOUS PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS OF THE STATE, TOGETHER WITH THE INCREASE AND DECREASE OF CATTLE AND SHEEP ON THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1904.

Petty Sessions District.	Horses.	Cattle.				Sheep.				Pigs.
		1903.	1904.	1904.		1903.	1904.	1904.		
	1904.			Increase.	Decrease.			Increase.	Decrease.	1904.
Adavale	2,187	9,894	11,523	1,629	...	224,711	346,039	121,328	...	13
Allora	2,365	11,556	8,302			55,389	16,584			3,381
Clifton	3,942	...	8,202	18,284	...	...	49,385	87,627	...	3,292
Toowoomba	13,151	31,926	45,262			379,066	456,113			15,203
Alpha	1,935	6,190	5,653			4,162	30,098			523
Aramac	1,513	1,894	2,702	271	...	128,213	123,986	21,709	...	33
Augathella	1,194	8,619	8,165	...	454	121,916	151,383	29,467	...	25
Ayr	4,327	25,781	27,382	1,601	...	441	307	...	134	1,426
Banana	2,353	16,178	20,231			11,720	14,752			129
Rockhampton	20,196	90,621	104,331	17,763	...	10,830	10,012	2,214	...	8,217
Barcaldine	2,686	1,741	5,423	3,682	...	400,010	494,157	94,147	...	321
Beaudesert	4,457	44,047	45,853	1,806	...	498	643	145	...	7,282
Biggenden	1,608	7,808	6,106	...	1,702	526	603	77	...	1,780
Blackall	2,971	2,424	6,836	4,412	...	346,581	445,567	98,986	...	268
Bollon	2,368	12,334	19,875	7,541	...	257,345	343,108	85,763	...	180
Boulia	5,936	57,837	76,062	18,225	...	110,137	84,188	...	25,949	19
Bowen	10,048	69,242	66,345			3,884	4,436			727
Ravenswood	2,664	6,871	8,297	...	1,471	200	30	382	...	290
Brisbane	7,819	10,105	11,888	1,783	...	250	322	72	...	3,192
Bundaberg	6,124	30,135	19,448			516	199			6,372
Gladstone	10,667	54,134	76,778	11,957	..	2,918	3,594	359	...	2,825
Burke	5,993	138,921	108,593	...	30,328	1,138	953	...	185	138
Caboolture	1,010	5,301	5,662	361	...	111	136	25	...	1,497
Cairns	2,667	2,916	3,452	536	...	1,877	280	...	1,597	997
Camooweal	2,459	31,930	35,763	3,833	...	12,001	15,000	2,999	...	13
Cape River	4,693	27,149	30,506	3,357	...	162	20	...	142	232
Cardwell	1,518	8,876	5,683	...	3,193	...	...	...	...	116
Charleville	3,100	16,034	21,775	5,741	...	167,095	227,267	60,172	...	505
Charters Towers	13,964	71,662	84,258	12,596	...	1,944	1,967	23	...	1,246
Childers	2,314	3,772	4,552	780	...	109	14	...	95	2,320
Clermont	5,367	14,882	20,931	6,049	...	222,920	283,780	60,860	...	782
Cleveland	413	1,294	829	...	465	...	1	1	...	375
Cloncurry	8,084	99,887	106,988			254,156	242,350			244
Hughenden	4,321	120,123	39,186	13,951	...	580,283	274,554	198,828	...	355
Richmond	5,556	...	87,787			...	516,363			348
Condamine	1,095	8,234	8,823	589	...	10,511	5,739	...	4,772	506
Coen	2,217	...	6,866							110
Cook	3,826	29,538	25,724	...	6,937	...	...	...	...	448
Palmer	1,126	12,321	2,332							39
Crow's Nest	2,627	18,076	16,091			1,949	546			4,661
Gayndah	4,085	55,303	44,424			1,267	1,220			872
Gympie	5,196	37,645	31,931	15,915	...	1,876	118	6,451	...	3,744
Kilkivan	3,714	...	39,030			...	2,767			1,622
Nanango	5,664	46,393	41,856			1,677	8,569			4,101
Croydon	2,900	34,558	24,643	...	9,915	...	...	...	...	113
Cunnamulla	2,697	7,196	6,120	...	1,076	636,131	785,993	149,862	...	194
Dalby	7,928	17,935	28,419	10,484	...	344,431	439,454	95,023	...	5,875
Diamantina	1,813	25,266	32,006	6,740	...	423	1,463	1,040	...	...
Douglas	914	548	544	...	4	...	...	...	...	131
Dugandan	3,372	21,678	24,469	2,791	...	199	285	86	...	5,804
Eidsvold	3,501	39,558	42,264	2,706	...	14,234	15,510	1,276	...	410
Emerald	1,031	1,285	2,597	1,312	...	2,946	6,036	3,090	...	454
Esk	5,469	60,792	61,421	629	...	1,185	1,237	52	...	3,816
Etheridge	6,866	94,937	106,372	11,435	...	...	...	...	...	234
Eulo	611	3,268	3,769	501	...	78,524	130,635	52,111	...	25
Gatton	5,572	26,926	28,788	1,862	...	1,031	401	...	630	8,680
Gin Gin	3,248	24,870	26,211	1,341	...	405	400	...	5	1,971
Goodna	613	1,351	1,621	270	...	40	40	...	...	395
Goondiwindi	1,958	8,813	10,921	2,108	...	153,640	231,092	77,452	...	485
Harrisville	2,377	15,600	17,055	1,455	...	201	166	...	35	4,321
Herberton	8,905	47,943	54,937	6,994	...	102	84	...	18	1,616
Highfields	2,397	8,405	10,631	2,226	...	2,293	3,545	1,252	...	4,196
Hungerford	541	940	587	...	353	91,039	98,795	7,756	...	11
Ingham	5,889	18,556	22,218	3,662	...	180	151	...	29	2,798
Inglewood	1,560	22,106	13,548	...	8,558	60,416	106,787	46,371	...	959
Ipswich	4,673	13,993	18,821	4,828	...	379	597	218	...	3,602
Isisford	2,750	2,746	4,473	1,727	...	316,037	368,944	52,907	...	17
Killarney	2,031	3,862	5,137	1,275	...	292	1,972	1,680	...	1,576
Laidley	3,332	9,167	12,342	3,175	...	58	383	325	...	6,009
Logan	2,592	8,658	9,931	1,273	...	74	104	30	...	1,994
Longreach	5,989	6,735	9,095	2,360	...	786,527	949,597	163,070	...	260
Mackay	16,790	45,882	50,168	4,286	...	11,520	14,195	2,675	...	2,911
Marburg	1,702	7,996	8,871	875	...	...	...	...	...	4,844
Mareeba	1,114	1,504	1,490	...	14	93	20	...	73	118
Maroochy	1,890	5,216	6,612	1,396	...	95	212	117	...	1,992
Maryborough	4,862	12,393	14,497	2,104	...	330	364	34	...	2,730
Mitchell	3,906	28,634	32,467	3,833	...	74,099	91,810	17,711	...	1,242
Mount Morgan	3,954	5,276	6,610	1,334	...	171	220	49	...	565
Mourilyan	1,078	971	1,259	288	...	32	68	36	...	584
Muttaburra	3,285	11,206	13,770	2,564	..	466,850	806,248	339,398	...	71
Nerang	2,382	10,404	11,651	1,247	...	152	248	96	...	2,905
Norman	6,522	236,503	210,186	...	26,317	246	200	...	46	257
Redcliffe	1,909	9,164	10,880	1,716	...	14	11	...	3	3,055

Table No. I.—*continued.*

Petty Sessions District.	Horses.	Cattle.				Sheep.				Pigs.
		1903.	1904.	1904.		1903.	1904.	1904.		
	1904.			Increase.	Decrease.			Increase.	Decrease.	1904.
Roma	4,729	18,087	27,457	9,370	...	147,411	196,134	48,723	...	2,606
Rosewood	2,612	15,275	16,680	1,405	...	365	286	...	79	4,632
St. George	2,454	5,107	10,738	5,631	...	231,830	372,671	140,841	...	371
St. Lawrence	3,770	23,673	24,587	914	...	398	299	...	99	502
Somerset	146	651	627	...	24	...	11	11	...	282
South Brisbane	4,349	5,697	6,957	1,260	...	389	370	...	19	2,729
Southwood	395	2,866	1,882	...	984	18,559	31,713	13,154	...	62
Springsure	3,578	19,585	27,983	8,398	...	77,949	131,181	53,232	...	689
Stanthorpe	2,173	15,194	16,196	1,002	...	51,109	56,762	5,653	...	664
Surat	1,322	1,763	5,477	3,714	...	147,309	210,971	63,662	...	250
Tambo	1,755	4,664	5,823	1,159	...	220,253	272,476	52,223	...	60
Taroom	2,044	20,369	27,905	7,536	...	13,219	20,702	7,483	...	167
Tenningering	1,559	11,550	12,708	1,158	...	218	115	...	103	340
Texas	1,147	6,349	7,887	1,538	...	4,360	4,835	475	...	173
Thargomindah	4,242	22,814	40,968	18,154	...	125,047	123,484	...	1,563	127
Thornborough	3,457	34,312	37,147	2,835	...	...	...	..	...	161
Tiaro	4,843	27,219	30,487	3,268	...	287	364	77	...	3,299
Townsville	6,482	15,956	16,357	401	...	664	42	...	622	1,976
Warwick	6,996	27,705	34,016	6,311	...	114,178	129,965	15,787	...	5,471
Windorah { Jundah	1,205	...	8,289	6,809	...	...	163,890	47,484	...	53
Windorah { Windorah	1,805	12,162	10,682		...	186,925	70,519		...	121
Winton	6,310	18,496	22,121	3,625	...	686,645	839,160	152,515	...	82
Woodford	2,743	16,368	19,571	3,203	...	250	592	342	...	2,011
Yeulba	606	3,420	4,688	1,268	...	1,901	2,511	610	...	324
Total in State in 1904 ...	413,165	...	2,722,340	...	...	...	10,843,470	...	...	185,141
Total in State in 1903 ...	401,984	2,481,717	...	...	...	8,392,044	...	...	...	117,553
Increase in 1904	11,181	...	...	240,623		...	...	2,451,426		67,588
Decrease in 1904	...	...	...	...		...	...	...		...

Table No. II.

RETURN OF THE NUMBER OF HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, AND PIGS IN THE VARIOUS PASTORAL DISTRICTS OF THE STATE FOR THE YEARS 1903 AND 1904, TOGETHER WITH THE NUMERICAL AND CENTESIMAL INCREASE OR DECREASE IN THE LATTER YEAR.

Pastoral District.	Year.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Numerical Increase or Decrease—				Centesimal Increase or Decrease—			
						Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
Burke ...	1903	36,191	594,157	838,489	1,153	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1904	34,176	554,723	1,000,517	1,446	— 2,015	— 39,434	162,028	293	— 5·57	— 6·64	19·32	25·41
Burnett ...	1903	16,892	158,486	17,922	3,065	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1904	19,088	174,880	26,026	8,455	2,196	16,394	8,104	5,390	13·00	10·34	45·22	175·86
Cook ...	1903	31,042	248,525	2,038	3,351	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1904	31,578	247,205	379	4,737	536	— 1,320	— 1,659	1,386	1·73	— 0·53	—81·40	41·36
Darling Downs	1903	44,080	166,354	1,194,365	23,571	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1904	47,172	200,329	1,533,996	41,853	3,092	33,975	339,631	18,282	7·01	20·42	28·44	77·56
Gregory North	1903	14,834	93,785	825,066	142	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1904	13,754	117,746	947,586	141	— 1,080	23,961	122,520	— 1	— 7·28	25·55	14·85	— 0·70
Gregory South	1903	6,239	30,662	191,370	153	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1904	4,985	47,917	146,211	204	— 1,254	16,255	— 45,159	51	—20·10	53·01	—23·60	33·33
Leichhardt ...	1903	31,343	159,543	178,866	2,839	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1904	28,970	191,762	257,861	7,105	— 2,373	32,219	78,995	4,266	— 7·57	20·19	44·16	150·26
Maranoa ...	1903	13,818	58,156	859,742	1,953	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1904	14,585	83,236	1,216,040	4,960	767	25,080	356,298	3,007	5·55	43·13	41·44	153·97
Mitchell ...	1903	19,927	50,290	2,609,094	634	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1904	22,652	77,684	3,582,770	1,069	2,725	27,394	973,676	435	13·67	54·47	37·32	68·61
Moreton ..	1903	59,870	309,234	7,240	51,674	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1904	62,381	341,336	8,958	74,211	2,511	33,102	1,718	22,537	4·19	10·70	23·73	43·61
North Kennedy	1903	47,820	238,285	7,443	7,673	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1904	48,651	257,890	6,563	8,762	831	19,605	— 880	1,089	1·74	8·23	—11·82	14·19
Port Curtis ...	1903	21,518	125,924	10,060	6,046	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1904	23,226	139,964	9,776	6,564	1,708	14,040	— 284	518	7·94	11·15	— 2·82	8·57
South Kennedy	1903	23,097	81,639	170,380	3,078	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1904	22,326	90,234	222,223	4,148	— 771	8,595	51,843	1,070	— 3·34	10·53	30·43	34·76
Warrego ...	1903	11,691	53,321	1,476,884	730	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1904	12,459	64,143	1,882,725	795	768	10,822	405,841	65	6·57	20·30	27·48	8·90
Wide Bay ...	1903	23,622	113,356	3,085	11,491	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1904	27,162	133,291	1,839	20,691	3,540	19,935	— 1,246	9,200	14·99	17·59	—40·39	80·06

Table No. III.

RETURN of LIVE STOCK SLAUGHTERED for PRESERVATION as Food, or FREEZING, or for TALLOW, in the STATE, during the YEARS 1895-1904, with the Quantity and Value of MEAT, TALLOW, LARD, &c., produced.

Year.	Number of Establishments.	Average Number of Hands Employed.	NUMBER SLAUGHTERED.							MEAT PRESERVED OR FROZEN.							Extract and Essence of Meat Produced.	Quantity of Tallow Produced.	Quantity of Lard Produced.	Total Value of all Products shown here.
			Cattle.			Sheep.			† Hogs.	Beef.			Mutton.		† Bacon and Hams.	† Pork, Salt and Fresh.				
			For Freezing.	For Preserving.	For Boiling Down.	For Freezing.	For Preserving.	For Boiling Down.		Frozen.	Fresh Preserved.	Salted.	Frozen.	Preserved.						
									No.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	tons.	lb.	£
1895	39	2,848	80,487	104,969	98,374	75,600	385,060	743,257	58,870	50,349,956	9,523,164	326,232	3,064,458	5,088,502	4,941,512	925,025	511,533	21,263	159,093	760,175
1896	35	2,838	76,483	77,719	87,562	100,550	262,151	430,696	67,034	50,245,213	19,014,648	182,586	4,571,086	2,914,902	5,108,726	1,220,034	517,011	12,736	203,972	980,772
1897	38	2,604	111,267	62,342	85,754	70,865	259,536	615,454	76,719	62,764,267	34,931,056	106,499	2,952,290	1,970,959	6,103,485	1,191,345	463,386	13,651	167,743	785,539
1898	46	2,876	112,940	65,966	147,528	61,258	69,006	146,845	85,510	64,676,868	23,209,919	1,972,000	2,355,030	967,363	6,973,007	878,901	1,593,285	13,609	216,194	548,651
1899	47	3,156	117,668	140,815	127,983	119,964	144,345	215,509	101,704	78,173,578	46,031,300	1,192,152	4,966,390	2,616,318	7,147,760	975,302	1,925,193	19,165	222,460	1,101,004
1900	33	2,540	150,057	108,975	21,022	50,719	75,887	25,049	90,608	91,006,191	33,111,290	1,153,285	2,285,758	1,379,785	7,685,446	696,062	759,193	9,657	381,695	1,068,623
1901	26	1,879	140,011	57,447	2,285	64,121	67,692	301	104,017	90,053,829	29,732,204	173,716	3,337,332	2,827,247	7,064,714	662,500	333,014	8,231	405,181	1,729,082
1902	22	1,548	132,166	51,205	2,471	117,729	189,025	2,251	88,416	85,743,229	22,543,999	479,138	5,225,727	*5,374,696	6,512,952	841,673	192,781	5,237	197,990	1,835,665
1903	16	999	108,343	16,149	922	102,007	13,309	110	54,712	66,483,364	9,773,112	73,924	4,906,991	498,416	4,145,900	940,489	100,720	3,661	273,257	1,437,701
1904 — Metropolitan 5, Bowen 1, Charters Towers 1, Caboolture 1, Gatton 1, Gladstone 1, Goodna 1, Harrisville 2, Mackay 1, Rockhampton 1, Townsville 1, Warwick 1	17	1,059	51,108	19,066	579	90,828	10,206	...	106,633	36,514,333	10,227,433	400,237	4,598,825	470,645	6,514,852	2,131,647	59,091	4,290	314,489	952,388

* Includes 3,970 lb. salted.

† Pigs killed by farmers, and pork and bacon made therefrom, are included in this table.

Table No. IV.

RETURN showing the NUMBER of CATTLE, SHEEP, &c., SLAUGHTERED (under the supervision of Inspectors of Slaughter-Houses only) for CONSUMPTION as FOOD in the STATE, together with the AVERAGE DEAD WEIGHT of each ANIMAL and the ESTIMATED QUANTITY CONSUMED PER CAPITA, for FIVE YEARS, ending 31ST DECEMBER, 1904 (exclusive of Factories engaged in Slaughtering for Preservation).

YEARS.	*POPULATION.	NUMBER SLAUGHTERED.					AVERAGE DEAD WEIGHT.					CONSUMPTION PER CAPITA.					
	Estimated for the Year.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Calves.	Lambs.	Hogs.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Calves.	Lambs.	Hogs.	Beef.	Mutton.	Veal.	Lamb.	Pork.	Total.
							lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
1900	477,020	177,394	474,538	17,737	8,032	38,851	579	44	59	30	83	215	44	2	0·51	6·76	268·27
1901	488,382	161,480	411,100	16,210	11,491	35,556	602	46	62	32	86	199	39	2	0·75	6·26	247·01
1902	493,117	148,970	399,412	9,919	7,026	33,387	540	35	58	25	77	163	28	1	0·36	5·21	197·57
1903	497,794	132,237	335,610	4,772	2,630	25,644	577	46	60	34	82	153	31	0·57	0·18	4·22	188·97
1904	503,574	133,368	297,103	6,594	2,551	27,852	655	50	58	33	84	173	29	0·76	0·17	4·65	207·58

* The figures quoted in this column refer to the estimated number of consumers calculated on data in the Statistical Department.

Table No. V.

OTHER PRODUCTS of MEAT PRESERVING, &c., ESTABLISHMENTS in the STATE—RETURN for TEN YEARS.

Year.	No.	Manure.		Edible Fats.		Hides.		Skins.		Bones.		Horns and Hoofs.	Hair.		Oils, &c.		All Other Products.*	Total Value.
		Tons.	£	lb.	£	Number.	£	Number.	£	Tons.	£	£	lb.	£	Gallons.	£		£
1895	36	4,505	11,124	560,219	6,599	280,781	161,795	1,170,559	160,545	1,332	5,001	3,905	59,434	1,979	28,454	2,661	...	353,609
1896	35	7,321	13,627	597,000	1,950	239,305	141,559	770,482	119,370	683	2,808	2,288	39,220	1,238	23,782	2,350	...	285,190
1897	38	10,738	24,654	673,385	8,455	259,160	161,979	928,330	125,043	954	3,696	3,307	76,539	1,848	18,478	1,819	...	330,801
1898	46	15,072	36,133	1,083,523	14,189	325,933	227,175	275,824	39,736	991	4,685	5,615	72,358	1,871	27,678	2,899	...	332,303
1899	47	17,347	56,446	985,121	13,163	395,929	337,931	524,215	97,016	1,265	6,363	10,819	92,487	2,359	26,000	2,831	...	526,928
1900	27	9,519	31,518	1,362,786	19,792	265,051	235,239	191,445	28,850	655	3,739	12,900	39,089	2,001	17,590	2,022	9,073	345,134
1901	18	4,937	21,999	1,382,080	21,244	182,708	180,673	187,126	14,847	522	2,873	5,321	34,670	1,820	16,916	2,218	8,668	259,663
1902	18	3,654	14,274	1,191,572	21,572	178,090	170,874	275,176	26,311	578	3,824	3,649	16,310	860	18,769	2,283	6,613	243,647
1903	12	2,215	9,973	1,033,491	16,807	130,639	135,518	150,900	21,466	625	3,660	4,667	17,819	797	10,540	1,296	15,019	209,123
1904	12	1,763	8,667	377,105	5,109	76,677	86,505	124,251	19,023	159	1,001	3,069	28,933	813	7,242	753	20,912	145,852

* Not compiled prior to 1900.

Table No. VI.

RETURN showing the TOTAL EXTENT of LAND under CULTIVATION, and the AREA under each DESCRIPTION of CROP, in the several PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS of the STATE during the YEAR 1904.

Petty Sessions Districts.	Total Extent of Land under permanent Pasture with Artificially Sown Grasses.	Total Extent of Land under Cultivation.	Land in Fallow and Totally Unproductive.	Total Extent of Land under Crop.	GRAIN CROPS.							POTATOES.		Pumpkins and Melons.	Cotton.	Sugar-cane.	Arrowroot.	Tobacco.	COFFEE.		Hay (All Kinds).	Green Fodder.	VINES.		Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.	Other Crops.	Gardens and Orchards.
					Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.						Bearing.	Not yet Bearing.			Bearing.	Not yet Bearing.						
							Malting.	Other.																					
Moreton District.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres	Acres	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Beaudesert	335	8,708	3,739	4,969	...	...	...	...	2,830	2	...	190	22	246	...	...	...	...	...	...	892	603	4	1	14	...	26	73	66
Brisbane	6	4,965	122	4,843	...	...	...	...	561	...	...	261	236	181	...	...	...	...	...	...	510	1,054	233	67	264	731	57	410	278
Caboolture	23	1,549	263	1,286	...	...	...	...	613	...	...	98	90	29	...	...	1	...	...	...	52	94	4	1	2	49	62	41	150
Cleveland	3	660	18	642	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	4	15	14	...	...	4	...	...	...	5	36	8	15	63	215	37	188	29
Crow's Nest	5,303	7,838	418	7,420	786	12	240	25	4,788	5	...	502	...	391	...	...	...	...	...	...	233	335	7	1	...	...	13	32	50
Dugandan	315	10,845	237	10,608	17	2	...	...	7,455	7	...	253	10	879	...	...	...	...	...	...	821	935	17	1	10	1	13	97	20
Esk	991	3,430	248	3,182	1	...	...	11	2,012	...	...	82	70	298	...	...	...	...	...	...	346	264	14	3	...	...	29	48	4
Gatton	2,348	21,487	908	20,579	51	...	19	1	9,488	24	...	2,568	101	1,054	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,517	2,377	91	22	...	...	183	73	9
Goodna	...	486	...	486	...	...	...	...	175	...	...	26	2	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	102	134	7	1	...	...	15	1	4
Harrisville	50	9,463	1,001	8,462	3	...	4	...	4,154	...	...	76	23	1,221	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,250	1,617	13	1	...	...	13	41	46
Ipswich	480	4,384	261	4,123	...	...	...	1	1,483	...	...	228	41	152	...	...	...	...	...	...	940	1,167	20	5	...	...	16	51	19
Laidley	58	17,841	809	17,032	50	...	28	9	10,027	3	...	1,119	112	1,063	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,570	846	28	2	...	21	18	98	38
Logan	6	5,651	18	5,633	...	...	...	...	1,406	...	1	311	166	13	...	2,174	96	...	...	...	183	410	73	18	155	243	135	222	27
Marburg	16	8,172	471	7,701	...	...	...	...	3,623	...	...	110	73	618	...	410	2	...	...	...	90	2,480	30	9	12	2	11	53	178
Maroochy	2,602	5,947	146	5,801	...	...	...	1	858	...	...	47	70	38	...	2,677	15	...	38	13	54	165	10	3	583	158	713	196	162
Nerang	695	4,344	81	4,263	...	...	...	...	2,032	...	...	349	13	19	...	675	267	...	...	...	293	415	7	1	1	1	142	38	10
Redcliffe	79	3,743	183	3,560	...	...	...	...	1,811	...	...	293	123	40	...	...	1	...	...	...	385	624	31	3	160	35	24	25	5
Rosewood	...	7,048	344	6,704	1	...	...	...	2,654	...	...	98	17	183	...	...	2	...	...	...	752	2,822	59	29	...	..	3	29	55
South Brisbane ...	...	2,153	260	1,893	...	...	...	...	181	...	...	6	19	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	724	461	125	12	...	38	51	90	176
Woodford	766	1,187	132	1,055	...	...	...	1	654	...	...	55	32	11	...	...	11	...	...	...	79	104	8	1	...	...	19	30	50
Total Moreton ...	14,076	129,901	9,659	120,242	909	14	291	49	56,814	41	1	6,676	1,235	6,479	...	5,936	399	...	38	13	15,798	16,943	789	197	1,264	1,494	1,580	1,836	1,446
Downs District.																													
Allora	1,047	20,373	1,397	18,976	10,564	14	1,216	286	2,660	...	...	72	...	137	5	...	...	...	...	...	2,137	1,825	6	5	...	...	11	20	18
Clifton	3,845	35,304	1,992	33,312	19,158	68	4,804	22	3,785	...	...	8	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,945	320	32	2	...	...	3	32	83
Condamine	...	358	14	344	260	1	...	...	31	...	...	1	1	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	9	4	1	...	...	...	1	...
Dalby	888	19,758	442	19,316	14,770	10	945	151	1,054	...	...	17	4	96	...	...	...	...	...	...	760	1,419	12	5	...	...	8	46	19
Goondiwindi	...	620	24	596	133	...	14	...	72	6	...	5	...	13	...	...	...	2	...	...	311	3	2	1	...	...	3	10	21
Highfields	963	14,411	252	14,159	4,644	...	22	15	6,189	7	...	345	...	197	...	...	...	...	...	...	932	963	40	3	...	...	10	59	3
Inglewood	35	1,890	424	1,466	763	2	...	38	152	...	...	19	1	12	...	...	...	95	...	...	280	74	3	1	...	...	2	4	20
Killarney	278	14,536	477	14,059	8,890	32	552	105	3,145	1	...	115	...	27	...	...	...	8	...	...	585	519	3	...	...	...	2	48	27
Southwood	...	20	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Stanthorpe	51	1,294	8	1,286	68	8	...	...	86	...	...	84	...	26	...	...	...	...	...	...	186	25	26	41	...	...	...	690	46
Texas	...	1,312	10	1,302	198	4	...	4	223	...	...	2	...	27	...	...	...	679	...	...	165	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Toowoomba	8,334	69,681	8,278	61,403	28,548	292	3,965	767	7,354	27	...	159	...	479	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,590	9,297	201	10	...	...	46	409	259
Warwick	2,685	39,074	795	38,279	21,641	191	2,764	527	4,521	55	...	288	...	129	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,100	1,769	44	4	...	...	2	150	94
Total Downs ...	18,126	218,631	14,113	204,518	109,637	622	14,982	1,945	29,272	96	...	1,115	6	1,211	5	...	...	784	...	...	26,028	16,223	373	73	...	...	87	1,469	590
Maranoa District.																													
Bollon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mitchell	...	9,082	154	8,928	8,710	3	...	...	21	10	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	162	...	16	...	...	...	...	...	3
Roma	3	29,531	458	29,073	27,639	...	50	8	409	...	...	29	3	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	340	43	216	206	...	...	10	23	85
St. George	...	335	32	303	116	...	...	...	31	...	...	9	1	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	95	...	2	2	...	...	6	6	26
Surat	...	751	42	709	622	...	29	...	10	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Yeulba	...	1,572	194	1,378	1,266	1	...	1	60	...	...	5	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	4	1	1	...	...	...	10	...
Total Maranoa ...	3	41,271	880	40,391	38,353	4	79	9	531	10	...	47	4	29	...	...	...	...	...	...	659	53	235	209	...	...	16	39	114

Table No. VI.—*continued.*

Petty Sessions Districts.	Total Extent of Land under permanent Pasture with Artificially Sown Grasses.	Total Extent of Land under Cultivation.	Land in Fallow and Totally Unproductive.	Total Extent of Land under Crop.	GRAIN CROPS.							POTATOES.		Pumpkins and Melons.	Cotton.	Sugar-cane.	Arrowroot.	Tobacco.	COFFEE.		Hay (All Kinds).	Green Fodder.	VINES.		Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.	Other Crops.	Gardens and Orchards
					Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.						Bearing.	Not yet Bearing.			Bearing.	Not yet Bearing.						
							Malting.	Other.																					
Rockingham District.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Cairns	67	14,890	490	14,400	...	...	...	...	1,658	...	22	22	39	3	12	10,637	...	...	146	3	1	107	...	...	1,481	60	97	91	21
Cardwell	...	970	...	970	...	...	...	...	201	...	...	4	45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	521	2	179	18	...
Douglas	4	6,912	22	6,890	...	...	...	...	260	...	31	...	32	5	...	6,391	...	...	16	...	10	10	...	...	28	6	76	22	3
Herberton	1,406	5,817	120	5,697	...	...	...	...	5,208	...	1	35	40	66	...	...	2	...	6	...	174	25	1	1	8	2	32	35	61
Ingham	160	13,190	1,267	11,923	...	...	...	...	75	...	...	33	118	...	...	11,634	...	...	...	...	...	37	...	...	5	...	5	11	5
Mareeba	10	342	43	299	...	...	...	...	207	...	...	24	22	3	...	...	...	...	6	...	15	2	...	...	1	...	9	7	3
Mourilyan	...	13,279	2,110	11,169	...	...	...	...	172	...	...	...	50	...	...	7,910	35	...	26	...	...	71	...	...	2,848	8	31	18	...
Total Rockingham	1,647	55,400	4,052	51,348	...	...	...	...	7,781	...	54	118	346	77	12	36,572	37	...	200	3	200	252	1	1	4,892	78	429	202	93
Edgecumbe District.																													
Ayr	...	7,396	364	7,032	...	...	...	...	546	...	...	22	78	12	...	6,227	...	...	...	...	...	109	...	...	2	2	5	12	17
Bowen	...	4,130	125	4,005	...	...	...	...	332	...	...	45	18	10	...	3,271	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	4	153	149	16
Mackay	...	29,415	463	28,952	...	...	...	...	222	...	3	67	137	8	...	28,182	...	...	44	5	27	72	6	...	14	7	36	55	67
Townsville	...	565	...	565	...	...	...	...	47	...	...	194	25	83	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33	1	3	3	1	13	87	75
Total Edgecumbe	...	41,506	952	40,554	...	...	...	...	1,147	...	3	328	258	113	...	37,680	...	...	44	5	27	221	7	3	19	14	207	303	175
Port Curtis District.																													
Gladstone	17	1,319	251	1,068	...	...	...	...	655	...	...	93	20	27	...	24	...	...	...	...	60	19	2	1	117	8	19	9	14
Mount Morgan ...	...	88	7	81	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	9	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	2	50
Rockhampton	63	4,957	533	4,424	1	...	...	...	1,262	3	...	223	238	186	1	...	...	...	3	14	1,846	255	69	2	13	36	97	79	96
Total Port Curtis...	80	6,364	791	5,573	1	...	...	...	1,926	3	...	325	259	218	1	24	...	...	3	14	1,907	278	71	3	130	44	116	90	160
Burnett and Wide Bay District.																													
Biggenden	...	3,336	904	2,432	...	...	...	...	1,808	...	...	149	37	210	1	...	...	...	...	...	61	127	4	...	...	...	6	6	23
Bundaberg	41	27,241	2,090	25,151	...	...	...	1	3,798	...	...	77	169	97	...	19,586	...	...	...	...	416	500	28	10	15	24	46	55	329
Childers	2	16,641	859	15,782	...	...	...	...	1,135	...	...	25	97	34	10	14,158	...	...	...	...	128	90	4	...	5	10	12	34	40
Eidsvold	13	471	15	456	...	...	...	...	330	...	...	22	6	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	61	10	3	...	...	...	2	4	11
Gayndah	...	634	419	215	18	...	...	...	152	...	...	7	10	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	2	1	1	...	...	5	1	...
Gin Gin	...	6,724	1,035	5,689	...	...	...	...	1,642	...	...	77	51	36	...	3,698	...	...	...	...	60	90	11	1	...	3	8	4	8
Gympie	166	4,130	293	3,837	...	...	...	...	1,922	...	...	197	54	161	...	189	...	...	...	...	862	166	32	17	3	2	60	18	154
Kilkivan	29	1,488	83	1,405	...	...	...	...	1,012	...	...	42	4	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	229	67	4	1	...	...	3	3	24
Maryborough	2	3,826	204	3,622	...	...	...	...	561	...	...	166	148	53	...	1,134	...	...	7	5	541	250	45	14	159	87	312	77	63
Nanango	1,305	9,543	624	8,919	1,719	3	30	...	6,202	...	...	71	8	53	...	...	...	...	...	...	510	277	3	1	...	...	2	20	20
Tenningering	15	98	37	61	...	...	...	...	40	...	...	3	8	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	...
Tiaro	7	4,605	730	3,875	2	...	...	1	1,440	1	...	228	23	40	...	1,340	...	...	...	...	463	216	5	2	35	10	47	22	...
Total Burnett and Wide Bay District	1,580	78,737	7,293	71,444	1,739	3	30	2	20,042	1	...	1,064	615	714	11	40,105	...	...	7	5	3,348	1,796	141	47	217	136	504	245	672

Table No. VI.—*continued.*

Petty Sessions Districts.	Total Extent of Land under permanent Pasture with Artificially Sown Grasses.	Total Extent of Land under Cultivation.	Land in Fallow and Totally Unproductive.	Total Extent of Land under Crop.	GRAIN CROPS.							POTATOES.		Pumpkins and Melons.	Cotton.	Sugar-cane.	Arrowroot.	Tobacco.	COFFEE.		Hay (All Kinds).	Green Fodder.	VINES.		Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.	Other Crops.	Gardens and Orchards.
					Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.						Bearing.	Not yet Bearing.			Bearing.	Not yet Bearing.					
							Malting.	Other.																					
Other Districts.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Adavale	...	6	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1
Alpha	...	49	20	29	...	...	...	...	12	...	...	...	1	6	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	3	2
Aramac	...	15	...	15	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	1	4
Augathella	...	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Banana	...	61	24	37	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	18
Barcaldine	...	293	25	268	159	...	...	...	13	...	...	6	5	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	45	2	5	3	...	...	6	7	10
Blackall	...	37	...	37	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Boulia	...	6	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Burke	...	41	...	41	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	1	4	6	19
Camooweal	...	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cape River	...	34	2	32	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	1	3	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	45	2	2	...	..	9	5	...
Charleville	...	184	55	129	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	3	...	...	29	3	81
Charters Towers ...	...	123	...	123	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	6	16	46
Clermont	...	722	111	611	...	...	...	...	357	...	...	3	6	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	149	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Cloncurry	...	27	...	27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	...	6	...
Coen	...	66	...	66	...	...	...	...	29	...	...	1	21	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34	8	49	45	...
Cook	...	460	37	423	...	...	...	...	205	...	2	...	58	11	...	...	1	...	10	...	18	...	...	...	1	...	11	3	59
Croydon	...	94	...	94	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Cunnamulla	70	132	10	122	70	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diamantina	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Emerald	...	396	256	140	...	...	...	...	22	...	...	15	3	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	21	2	1	...	...	12	3	30
Etheridge	...	575	...	575	...	...	...	...	477	...	...	2	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	78
Eulo	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Hughenden	...	50	21	29	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	14	2	7
Hungerford	...	178	80	98	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	98	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Isisford	...	18	...	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Jundah	...	6	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	6
Longreach	...	35	...	35	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	33
Muttaburra	...	15	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	2
Norman	...	21	1	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	5	6	...
Palmer	...	74	...	74	...	...	...	...	53	...	...	1	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	1	4
Ravenswood	...	53	...	53	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	43
Richmond	...	46	...	46	...	...	...	...	14	...	...	8	4	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	2	...	...	...	7	1
St. Lawrence	...	151	13	138	...	...	...	...	68	...	...	19	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Somerset	...	848	...	848	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	102	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	111	1	...	608	..
Springsure	...	899	237	662	40	...	...	...	240	...	...	4	1	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	350	1	...	...	...	...	2	2	2
Tambo	...	6	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Taroom	7	94	42	52	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	9	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	9	1	1	...	...	1	1	...
Thargomindah	...	25	...	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	1	14
Thornborough	...	195	6	189	...	...	...	...	141	...	...	9	9	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	2	2	1	9	4
Windorah	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Winton	...	43	...	43	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
														5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	4	30
Total Other Districts	77	6,086	940	5,146	319	...	...	...	1,658	...	2	98	260	150	1	...	1	...	...	10	773	95	30	14	158	15	167	748	647
Grand Total 1904 ...	35,589	577,896	38,680	539,216	150,958	643	15,382	2,005	119,171	151	60	9,771	2,983	8,991	30	120,317	437	784	292	50	48,740	35,861	1,647	547	6,680	1,781	3,106	4,932	3,897
„ 1903 ...	15,639	621,693	55,104	566,589	138,096	2,808	16,750	6,131	133,099	315	49	6,732	3,054	18,833	2	111,516	363	772	318	76	78,393	26,576	1,486	583	6,577	1,493	2,936	5,201	4,430
Increase in 1904 ...	19,950	...	...	...	12,862	...	...	...	...	...	11	3,039	...	...	28	8,801	74	12	...	...	...	9,285	161	...	103	288	170	...	...
Decrease in 1904 ...	...	43,797	16,424	27,373	...	2,165	1,368	4,126	13,928	164	...	...	71	9,842	...	...	...	...	26	26	29,653	...	...	36	...	...	...	269	533

Table No. VII.

RETURN showing the GROSS PRODUCE of PRINCIPAL CROPS Raised in the several PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS of the STATE during the YEAR ended 31st DECEMBER, 1904.

PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS.	QUANTITY OF PRODUCE.																			
	GRAIN CROPS.							POTATOES.		Pumpkins and Melons.	Cotton.	SUGAR-CANE.		Arrowroot.	Tobacco (Cured Leaf).	Coffee.	Hay (All Kinds).	VINES.	Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.			Sugar-Cane Crushed.	Sugar-Cane Crushed.					Grapes Gathered.			
			Malting.	Other.																	
Moreton District.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Lb.	Acres.	Tons.	Tons.	Cwt.	Lb.	Tons.	Lb.	Bunches.	Dozens.	Dozens.
Beaudesert	...	...	...	...	67,911	50		489	128	1,218	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,115	24,062	15	...	21,702
Brisbane	...	...	...	...	17,289	...	...	531	1,559	897	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,173	410,148	51,885	230,155	58,589
Caboolture	...	...	...	...	16,544	...	...	255	514	102	...	...	...	2	...	...	94	13,381	440	6,890	56,418
Cleveland	...	...	...	...	270	...	...	12	58	42	...	...	...	45	...	...	12	16,874	8,460	36,647	8,898
Crow's Nest	11,915	400	4,803	704	87,502	28	...	1,137	...	1,883	...	...	...	...	...	...	396	19,584	...	...	8,204
Dugandan	176	14	...	...	164,386	39	...	483	24	4,253	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,047	41,518	1,640	98	10,133
Esk	4	...	...	184	70,187	...	...	193	243	924	...	...	...	...	...	...	903	105,787	...	...	40,937
Gatton	594	...	440	64	214,500	341	...	4,622	464	4,272	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,007	249,562	...	...	494,968
Goodna	...	...	...	...	5,581	...	...	27	2	57	...	...	...	...	...	...	199	2,640	...	...	1,050
Harrisville	45	...	40	...	76,316	...	...	148	75	1,804	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,319	26,273	...	...	4,380
Ipswich	...	...	...	18	24,289	...	...	429	156	642	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,727	18,556	...	...	15,266
Laidley	1,003	...	674	52	195,351	30	...	2,177	456	3,776	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,096	45,650	...	1,212	11,910
Logan	...	...	...	...	33,345	...	20	501	631	59	...	1,142	12,631	741	...	...	500	109,457	19,516	67,701	97,523
Marburg	...	...	...	...	66,935	...	...	197	230	2,601	...	191	1,817	5	...	...	261	24,120	500	330	2,764
Maroochy	...	...	...	40	23,196	...	...	88	442	199	...	1,215	21,821	202	...	28,191	141	29,801	82,889	18,617	441,852
Nerang	...	...	...	...	53,961	...	...	510	116	107	...	419	5,390	2,640	...	...	405	28,340	130	400	159,807
Redcliffe	...	...	...	...	32,807	...	...	532	588	202	...	...	...	7	...	...	585	23,050	33,300	5,160	18,920
Rosewood	30	...	...	...	39,896	...	...	248	68	507	...	...	...	7	...	...	1,786	48,490	...	...	730
South Brisbane	...	...	...	...	4,032	...	...	8	162	29	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,747	247,061	...	7,652	36,013
Woodford	...	...	...	60	15,886	...	...	135	225	54	...	...	...	64	...	...	156	15,770	...	...	20,342
Total Moreton ...	13,767	414	5,957	1,122	1,210,184	488	20	12,722	6,141	23,628	...	2,967	41,659	3,713	...	28,191	39,669	1,500,124	198,775	374,862	1,510,406
Downs District.																					
Allora	211,336	280	27,948	6,403	43,018	...	...	129	...	185	3,000	...	...	...	...	...	1,987	38,484	...	...	1,854
Clifton	362,430	2,110	109,963	400	51,464	...	...	11	...	85	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,630	34,450	...	...	2,346
Condamine	3,357	16	...	...	478	...	...	1	2	90	...	...	...	...	...	...	65	3,796	...	...	...
Dalby	179,885	280	10,535	1,702	20,810	...	...	29	7	263	...	...	...	...	...	...	820	25,960	...	...	2,771
Goondiwindi	1,302	...	44	...	967	32	...	2	...	29	...	...	...	...	8	...	246	16,125	...	...	2,852
Highfields	68,834	...	13,942	1,612	120,789	140	...	676	...	557	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,293	105,606	...	...	17,816
Inglewood	10,919	40	...	545	3,760	...	...	48	2	140	...	...	...	...	861	...	461	30,284	...	...	2,506
Killarney	172,058	676	16,385	3,682	68,613	16	...	190	...	133	...	...	...	...	121	...	1,191	8,460	...	...	1,990
Southwood	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...
Stanthorpe	862	200	...	...	1,275	...	...	150	...	79	...	...	...	...	...	...	313	50,832	...	...	...
Texas	2,081	40	...	80	4,535	...	...	4	...	50	...	...	...	...	6,135	...	263	...	...	...	...
Toowoomba	364,025	6,120	62,290	11,595	111,483	423	...	291	...	1,441	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,512	391,401	...	...	38,076
Warwick	401,591	4,890	48,470	8,044	67,728	560	...	449	...	421	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,631	66,250	...	...	720
Total Downs ...	1,778,680	14,652	289,577	34,063	494,920	1,171	...	1,980	11	3,473	3,000	...	...	...	7,125	...	31,432	771,648	...	...	70,931
Maranoa District.																					
Bollon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mitchell	44,570	15	...	...	290	32	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	149	5,000	...	...	...
Roma	274,594	...	410	98	4,990	...	...	42	7	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	453	322,626	...	...	8,624
St. George	1,103	...	...	...	125	...	...	14	2	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	119	15,750	...	...	5,730
Surat	5,672	...	400	...	42	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	56	...	...	...	...
Yeulba	10,941	4	...	7	797	...	...	3	...	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	2,324	...	...	...
Total Maranoa ...	336,880	19	840	105	6,244	32	...	62	9	47	...	...	...	...	...	...	796	345,700	...	...	14,354

Table No. VII.—*continued.*

PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS.	QUANTITY OF PRODUCE.																			
	GRAIN CROPS.							POTATOES.		Pumpkins and Melons.	Cotton.	SUGAR-CANE.		Arrowroot.	Tobacco (Cured Leaf).	Coffee.	Hay (All Kinds).	VINES.	Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.			Sugar-Cane Crushed.	Sugar-Cane Crushed.					Grapes Gathered.			
			Malting.	Other.																	
Rockingham District.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Lb.	Acres.	Tons.	Tons.	Cwt.	Lb.	Tons.	Lb.	Bunches.	Dozens.	Dozens.
Cairns	...	...	...	...	48,082	...	708	46	276	10	13,440	7,646	141,650	...	...	35,549	1	...	267,036	24,420	65,391
Cardwell	...	...	...	...	7,080	...	...	13	497	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	167,620	220	115,421
Douglas	...	...	...	...	6,572	...	680	...	107	11	...	5,462	81,711	...	...	8,800	15	...	1,125	1,620	42,520
Herberton	...	...	...	...	171,202	...	10	74	200	123	...	...	...	30	...	10,980	392	4,330	3,270	448	63,339
Ingham	...	...	...	...	2,180	...	...	43	660	...	...	9,119	125,224	...	...	...	...	...	1,250	...	4,508
Mareeba	...	...	...	...	5,125	...	...	65	50	1	...	...	...	...	...	700	13	...	500	...	973
Mourilyan	...	...	...	...	2,884	...	...	...	218	...	...	6,070	87,803	350	...	16,000	...	...	1,287,528	3,090	24,347
Total Rockingham	...	...	...	...	243,125	...	1,398	241	2,008	145	13,440	28,297	436,388	380	...	72,029	421	4,330	1,728,329	29,798	316,499
Edgecumbe District.																					
Ayr	...	...	...	...	7,102	...	...	57	422	37	...	4,242	95,010	...	...	...	...	...	150	398	...
Bowen	...	...	...	...	5,035	...	...	60	79	19	...	2,504	35,709	...	...	...	...	...	...	310	140,268
Mackay	...	...	...	...	5,263	...	120	168	577	16	...	17,622	253,250	...	...	27,070	36	15,684	3,614	645	43,148
Townsville	...	...	...	...	496	...	...	697	108	233	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,334	1,080	240	5,582
Total Edgecumbe	...	...	...	...	17,896	...	120	982	1,186	305	...	24,368	383,969	...	...	27,070	36	18,018	4,844	1,593	189,298
Port Curtis District.																					
Gladstone	...	...	...	...	23,024	...	...	241	75	149	...	8	30	...	...	...	117	6,627	297	1,458	15,117
Mount Morgan	...	...	...	...	160	...	...	21	6	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...
Rockhampton	30	...	...	...	29,196	18	...	477	1,039	453	500	...	...	...	...	560	1,667	114,560	2,571	6,109	68,949
Total Port Curtis	30	...	...	...	52,380	18	...	739	1,120	632	500	8	30	...	...	560	1,789	121,187	2,868	7,667	84,066
Burnett and Wide Bay District.																					
Biggenden	...	...	...	...	51,181	...	...	483	235	627	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	66	4,895	...	...	1,320
Bundaberg	...	...	...	16	105,586	...	...	143	678	414	...	13,525	229,961	...	...	...	996	69,094	1,750	7,803	27,039
Childers	...	...	...	...	28,973	...	...	52	560	134	8,500	9,034	171,987	...	...	...	161	6,735	854	695	12,080
Eidsvold	...	...	...	...	5,354	...	...	26	17	27	...	...	...	...	...	...	93	9,411	...	...	1,819
Gayndah	36	...	...	...	3,643	...	...	19	83	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	9,250	...	...	5,740
Gin Gin	...	...	...	...	53,920	...	...	180	372	145	...	2,849	40,210	...	...	...	146	9,234	...	192	2,756
Gympie	...	...	...	...	57,202	...	...	369	222	242	...	77	1,688	...	...	...	1,105	37,345	2,012	150	41,802
Kilkivan	...	...	...	...	16,864	...	...	92	27	54	...	...	...	...	...	...	470	6,100	...	...	3,100
Maryborough	...	...	...	...	17,883	...	...	314	595	205	...	630	7,257	...	...	4,704	1,072	73,588	19,827	27,205	345,071
Nanango	16,826	52	72	...	93,569	...	...	123	44	268	...	...	...	...	...	...	927	14,082	...	...	4,550
Tenningering	...	...	...	...	965	...	...	6	61	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1,050	...	...	2,238
Tiaro	23	...	...	20	62,443	20	...	525	126	149	...	986	13,840	...	...	...	857	13,746	753	1,283	35,221
Total Burnett and Wide Bay	16,885	52	72	36	497,583	20	...	2,332	3,020	2,278	8,500	27,101	464,943	...	...	4,704	5,919	254,530	25,196	37,328	482,736

Table No. VII.—*continued.*

PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS.	QUANTITY OF PRODUCE.																			
	GRAIN CROPS.							POTATOES.		Pumpkins and Melons.	Cotton.	SUGAR-CANE.		Arrowroot.	Tobacco (Cured Leaf).	Coffee.	Hay (All Kinds).	VINES.	Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.			Sugar-Cane Crushed.	Sugar-Cane Crushed.					Grapes Gathered.			
			Malting.	Other.																	
Other Districts.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Lb.	Acres.	Tons.	Tons.	Cwt.	Lb.	Tons.	Lb.	Bunches.	Dozens.	Dozens.
Adavale	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	715
Alpha	...	...	...	...	64	...	...	...	4	48	392	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,840	...	...	...
Aramac	...	...	...	...	40	...	...	2	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,436	...	...	560
Augathella	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Banana	...	...	...	...	126	...	...	3	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	...	...	...	...
Barcaldine	...	...	2,814	...	350	...	...	14	13	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	82	6,600	...	...	3,895
Blackall	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Boulia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Burke	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	9	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	700	370	60	530
Camooweal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cape River	...	...	...	...	65	...	...	5	12	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,646	...	...	6,230
Charleville	...	...	164	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4,190	...	...	...
Charters Towers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21,300	...	...	48,872
Clermont	...	...	...	...	1,417	...	...	8	18	46	...	...	...	...	...	...	70	2,290	...	...	2,710
Cloncurry	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Coen	...	...	...	...	855	...	...	1	43	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	386	181	...
Cook	...	...	...	...	3,346	...	100	...	154	29	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	8,440	1,243	40,060
Croydon	...	...	...	...	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	121	...	5,002
Cunnamulla	...	...	280	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	...	...	...	...
Diamantina	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Emerald	...	...	...	...	242	...	...	25	8	170	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	7,360	...	...	6,600
Etheridge	...	...	...	...	5,970	...	...	6	14	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	500	...	...
Eulo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hughenden	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,750	...	...	19,000
Hungerford	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	107	...	...	...	...
Isisford	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,600	...	...	...
Jundah	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Longreach	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	500
Muttaburra	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	10	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	1,000	...	...	630
Norman	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120	...	200
Palmer	...	...	...	...	1,530	...	...	2	34	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,000	600	12,800
Ravenswood	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	660
Richmond	...	...	...	...	240	...	...	10	10	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. Lawrence	...	...	...	...	1,270	...	...	36	67	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	850	...	...	...
Somerset	...	...	...	...	50	...	...	...	80	27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,577	238	...
Springsure	...	...	163	...	1,459	...	...	2	1	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	218	...	...	...	400
Tambo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Taroom	...	...	...	...	50	...	...	17	1	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	1,326	...	...	250
Thargomindah	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	1	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,670	...	...	510
Thornborough	...	...	...	...	3,300	...	...	15	42	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	280	229	790
Windorah	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Winton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,740	...	...	465
Total Other Districts	...	3,421	...	...	...	20,434	...	100	173	531	462	392	...	...	1	...	...	600	72,298	16,794	2,551	151,379
Grand Total, 1904	...	2,149,663	15,137	296,446	35,326	2,542,766	1,729	1,638	19,231	14,026	30,970	25,832	82,741	1,326,989	4,094	7,125	132,554	80,662	3,087,835	1,976,806	453,799	2,819,669
,, 1903	...	2,433,799	70,713	382,082	128,475	1,923,623	6,482	1,322	17,649	13,412	62,102	1,500	60,375	823,875	4,735	617	83,632	136,117	2,362,520	1,112,578	340,832	1,150,514
Increase, 1904	...	...	...	...	...	619,143	...	316	1,582	614	...	24,332	22,366	503,114	...	6,508	48,922	...	725,315	864,228	112,967	1,669,155
Decrease, 1904	...	287,136	55,576	85,636	93,149	...	4,753	...	...	...	31,132	...	...	...	641	...	...	55,455	...	...	...	...

Table No. VIII.

SHOWING the TOTAL EXTENT of LAND under CULTIVATION, and the AREA under each DESCRIPTION of CROP in QUEENSLAND—RETURN for TEN YEARS.

Year.	Total Extent of Land under Cultivation.	Land in Fallow.	Total Extent of Land under Crop.	AREA UNDER EACH DESCRIPTION OF CROP.																																
				GRAIN CROPS.							POTATOES.		Pumpkins and Melons.*	Cotton.	SUGAR-CANE.		Arrowroot.	Tobacco.	COFFEE.		Hay (all Kinds.)	Lucerne and Green Forage.	VINES.		Bananas.	Pineapples.	ORANGES.		MANGOES.		Strawberries.	APPLES.		Other Crops.	*Market Gardens.	Other Gardens and Orchards.
				Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.			Area Crushed.	Total Area.			*Bearing.	Total Area.			Bearing.	Total Area.			*Bearing.	Total Area.	*Bearing.	Total Area.		*Bearing.	Total Area.			
						Malting*.	Other.																														
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1895	299,278	13,959	285,319	27,090	922	...	721	100,481	202	716	9,240	2,736	...	494	55,771	77,247	194	1,061	...	60	28,609	19,552	1,782	2,021	3,916	847	...	1,900	...	261	19	...	84	3,757	...	3,189
1896	336,775	14,097	322,678	35,831	1,881	...	1,122	115,715	345	600	7,672	3,131	...	280	66,640	83,093	309	994	26	138	35,764	19,509	1,842	2,020	4,477	823	...	1,791	...	205	27	...	74	3,569	...	3,308
1897	386,259	14,402	371,857	59,875	1,834	...	2,077	109,721	470	445	8,197	3,581	...	48	65,432	98,641	391	755	180	311	48,220	19,903	1,881	2,187	4,828	909	...	2,196	...	235	32	...	86	3,057	...	3,878
1898	409,287	46,033	363,254	46,219	271	1,953	991	102,835	299	863	7,961	3,696	7,604	1	82,391	111,012	455	617	199	432	35,263	26,980	1,727	2,020	5,264	1,130	...	2,272	...	214	75	...	157	1,169	...	3,501
1899	455,645	34,899	420,746	52,527	714	6,011	1,463	110,489	198	319	10,766	3,919	10,167	...	79,435	110,657	431	745	223	495	58,939	35,514	1,746	2,003	5,802	994	...	2,324	...	245	87	...	132	2,044	...	3,761
1900	480,372	22,975	457,397	79,304	385	6,302	1,231	127,974	151	271	11,060	3,614	14,232	...	72,651	108,535	401	665	283	537	42,497	41,445	1,734	2,019	6,215	939	2,045	2,882	349	411	121	140	238	2,381	...	3,587
1901	507,317	23,857	483,460	87,232	1,535	6,818	4,957	116,983	246	205	9,948	3,390	14,448	...	78,160	112,031	399	768	370	547	63,055	39,793	1,691	1,990	5,772	1,020	1,941	3,083	325	383	139	172	278	3,544	2,328	2,568
1902	478,121	202,738	275,383	1,880	78	163	267	89,923	22	38	2,899	1,847	2,573	8	59,102	85,338	296	722	314	396	20,068	51,279	1,302	1,559	5,266	1,101	2,085	3,141	384	420	65	189	353	2,166	2,171	1,344
1903	621,693	55,104	566,589	138,096	2,808	16,750	6,131	133,099	315	49	6,732	3,054	18,833	2	60,375	111,516	363	772	318	394	78,393	26,576	1,486	2,069	6,577	1,493	1,619	2,936	266	377	91	279	443	4,290	2,563	1,867
1904	577,896	38,680	539,216	150,958	643	15,382	2,005	119,171	151	60	9,771	2,983	8,991	30	82,741	120,317	437	784	292	342	48,740	35,861	1,647	2,194	6,680	1,781	1,790	3,106	292	382	161	280	516	3,873	2,099	1,798

*Not specially returned in earlier years.

Table No. IX.

SHOWING the GROSS PRODUCE of PRINCIPAL CROPS Raised in QUEENSLAND—RETURN for TEN YEARS.

Year.	QUANTITY OF PRODUCE.																																	
	GRAIN CROPS.							POTATOES.		*Pumpkins and Melons.	Cotton. †	SUGAR-CANE.		Arrowroot (Tubers.)	Tobacco (Cured Leaf).	Coffee.	Hay (All Kinds).	Ensilage.	VINES.		Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.	Mangoes.	Strawberries.	Apples.	* Market Gardens.	* Other Gardens and Orchards.
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.			Weight of Cane.*	Sugar made.						Grapes.	Wine.							
			Malting.	Other.																														
	Bshls.	Bshls.	Bshls.	Bshls.	Bshls.	Bshls.	Bshls.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Lb.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Cwt.	Lb.	Tons.	Tons.	Lb.	Gallons.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Quarts.	Doz.	£	£
1895	123,630	10,887	...	7,756	2,391,378	4,169	19,245	19,027	14,233	...	269,110	...	86,255	1,289	7,511	14,060	50,881	748	4,254,795	238,208	14,860,386	376,875	1,995,872	297,663	10,027	88,543	...	...
1896	601,254	32,181	...	19,340	3,065,333	7,449	20,528	18,451	14,322	...	141,032	...	100,774	2,603	8,629	9,707	69,695	495	5,122,531	170,733	17,059,124	313,835	1,348,990	252,068	20,565	62,426	...	...
1897	1,009,293	31,496	...	49,840	2,803,172	8,329	12,990	18,520	17,466	...	19,977	804,815	97,916	2,888	5,703	81,614	94,339	1,197	4,822,991	207,945	16,494,604	351,524	1,628,176	358,315	44,142	43,401	...	...
1898	607,012	4,047	26,917	7,948	2,252,481	3,874	38,133	16,413	20,069	23,370	50	1,542,090	163,734	6,116	3,276	56,552	70,235	1,620	4,116,218	134,334	46,547,090	462,752	1,527,469	266,444	83,306	60,948	...	...
1899	614,414	10,712	100,027	18,416	1,965,598	2,391	9,275	22,675	19,899	38,040	...	1,176,466	123,289	4,669	6,551	104,981	103,409	1,554	3,230,627	131,045	36,301,735	401,692	1,420,839	191,074	185,870	Bushels. 3,306	...	...
1900	1,194,088	7,855	107,910	19,234	2,456,647	1,928	6,870	20,014	18,200	43,740	...	848,328	92,554	4,419	4,032	102,134	78,758	1,276	3,634,949	132,489	Bunches. 2,321,108	424,835	2,041,068	277,444	401,105	5,316	...	...
1901	1,692,222	42,208	193,538	83,499	2,569,118	5,000	5,222	22,402	17,128	56,297	...	1,180,091	120,858	4,069	5,848	130,293	122,039	888	4,063,109	148,835	2,313,719	359,717	1,880,264	336,925	288,125	7,495	51,342	26,302
1902	6,165	520	1,749	1,846	1,033,329	238	1,093	3,257	7,165	6,087	1,600	641,927	76,626	1,461	1,818	113,301	23,181	217	2,284,404	100,852	1,160,015	260,444	1,191,242	257,138	12,714	9,165	40,374	11,649
1903	2,436,799	70,713	382,082	128,475	1,923,623	6,482	1,322	17,649	13,412	62,102	1,500	823,875	91,828	4,735	617	83,632	136,117	1,273	2,362,520	38,558	1,112,578	340,832	1,150,514	326,957	159,940	18,395	46,963	18,640
1904	2,149,663	15,137	296,446	35,326	2,542,766	1,729	1,638	19,231	14,026	30,970	25,832	1,326,989	147,688	4,094	7,125	132,554	80,662	1,735	3,087,835	60,433	1,976,806	453,799	2,819,669	861,592	187,526	19,162	36,330	14,079

* Not specially returned in earlier years. † Unginned.

Table No. X.

AVERAGE PRODUCE PER ACRE OF PRINCIPAL CROPS IN QUEENSLAND—RETURN FOR TEN YEARS.

Year.	GRAIN CROPS.							POTATOES.		*Pumpkins & Melons.	† Cotton.	SUGAR.		Arrowroot (Tubers).	Tobacco (Cured Leaf).	Coffee.	Hay (All Kinds).	Grapes.	Bananas	Pineapples.	Oranges.	Mangoes.	Strawberries.	Apples.	* Market Gardens.	* Gardens and Orchards.
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.			* Tons of Cane per Acre Crushed.	Tons of Sugar per Acre Crushed.													
			*Malting.	Other.																						
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Lb.	Tons.	Tons.	Lb.	Cwt.	Lb.	Tons.	Lb.	Doz.	Doz.	Doz.	Doz.	Quarts.	Doz.	£	£
1895 ...	4·56	11·81	...	10·76	23·80	20·64	26·88	2·06	5·20	...	545	...	1·55	6·65	7·08	§234	1·78	2,387	3,795	445	§1,050	§1,140	528	§1,054	...	...
1896 ...	16·78	17·10	...	17·24	26·49	21·59	34·21	2·40	4·57	...	504	...	1·51	8·42	8·68	373	1·95	2,780	3,810	381	§753	§1,230	762	§844	...	...
1897 ...	16·86	17·17	...	24·00	25·55	17·72	29·19	2·26	4·88	...	416	12·30	1·50	7·39	7·55	453	1·96	2,564	3,416	387	§741	§1,525	1,379	§505	...	...
1898 ...	13·13	14·93	13·78	8·02	21·90	12·96	44·19	2·06	5·43	3·07	50	18·72	1·99	13·44	5·31	284	1·99	2,383	8,843	410	§672	§1,245	1,111	§388	...	...
1899 ...	11·70	15·00	16·64	12·59	17·79	12·08	29·08	2·11	5·08	3·74	...	14·81	1·55	10·83	8·79	470	1·75	1,850	6,257	404	§611	§780	2,136	Bushels §25	...	...
1900 ...	15·06	20·40	17·12	15·62	19·20	12·77	25·35	1·81	5·04	3·07	...	11·68	1·28	11·02	6·06	361	1·85	2,096	Bunches. 373	452	998	795	3,315	38	...	...
1901 ...	19·40	27·50	28·39	16·84	21·96	20·33	25·47	2·25	5·05	3·90	...	15·10	1·55	10·20	7·61	352	1·94	2,403	401	353	969	1,037	2,073	44	22	10
1902 ...	3·28	6·67	10·73	6·91	11·49	10·82	28·76	1·12	3·88	2·37	200	10·86	1·30	4·94	2·52	361	1·16	1,755	220	237	571	670	196	48	19	9
1903 ...	17·65	25·18	22·81	20·95	14·45	26·98	20·58	2·62	4·39	3·30	750	13·65	1·52	13·04	0·80	265	1·74	1,590	169	228	711	1,229	1,758	66	18	10
1904 ...	14·24	23·54	19·27	17·62	21·34	11·45	27·30	1·97	4·70	3·44	861	16·04	1·78	9·37	9·09	454	1·65	1,875	296	255	1,575	2,951	1,165	68	17	8
‡	15·28	19·87	20·77	17·29	21·84	18·71	34·90	2·21	5·20	3·39	534	14·38	1·57	9·89	7·34	370	1·81	2,196	291	395	958	1,275	1,705	56	19	9

* Not specially returned in earlier years. † Unginned. ‡ Average for twenty years (or since statistics have been collected). § On total area.

Table No. XI.

SHOWING the AREA and PRODUCE Obtained during the YEAR 1904 from CERTAIN OTHER CROPS, details of which are not included in the GENERAL TABLE.

LOCALITY.	OTHER FRUITS.																		OTHER VEGETABLES.								OTHER MISCELLANEOUS CROPS.							
	Almonds.	Apples.	Apricots.	Cherries.	Cocoanuts.	Custard Apples.	Figs.	Gooseberries (Cape).	Lemons.	Mangoes.	Passion Fruit.	Pawpaw.	Peaches.	Pears.	Persimmons.	Plums.	Quinces.	Strawberries.	Beans.	Cabbages and Cauliflowers.	Cucumbers.	Onions.	Peas.	Tomatoes.	Turnips.	Yams.	Broom Millet.	Canary Seed.	Cassava, Manioc, or Tapioca.	Cow Pea.	Grass Seed.	Mangel-Wurzel.	Pea Nuts.	Sisal Hemp and Ramie.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Rockingham	...	5	...	...	4	...	...	...	11	56	...	...	5	...	...	1	...	...	1	23	...	...	...	...	1	1	15	...	6	...	...	...	73	...
Edgecumbe	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	81	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	4	32	58	...	1	111	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	8	...
Port Curtis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	31	...	2	5	...	...	2	...	...	...	27	2	...	1	4	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...
Burnett and Wide Bay ...	...	4	1	...	...	4	2	...	2	83	...	...	23	...	3	18	...	9	...	37	1	2	1	4	17	...	4	...	4	...	...	10	2	11
Moreton	...	32	1	...	...	19	2	34	22	103	34	7	147	4	12	67	...	148	63	185	187	12	72	165	132	...	203	..	...	1	...	174	...	...
Downs	2	475	44	36	...	...	4	...	9	...	...	...	202	32	2	136	13	4	4	106	3	30	1	28	9	...	18	244	...	...	41	5	12	...
Maranoa	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	5	...	...	2	...	...	...	7	...	5	...	1	3	...	...	10	...	...	...	4	...	...
Other Districts	...	...	...	...	515	...	...	...	5	28	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	55	6	6	...	5	2	86	2	...	...	3	...	...	22	2
Total Area	2	516	47	36	520	24	8	34	51	382	34	9	401	36	17	226	13	161	72	472	257	55	76	318	172	87	243	254	10	4	41	197	117	13
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Dozens.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Quarts.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Bushels.	Dozens.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Quarts.	Bushels.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Cwt.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.	Lb.	Lb.	Tons.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Lb.	Lb.
Rockingham	...	165	...	...	1,675	...	...	...	3,896	230,165	...	...	399	...	...	15	...	...	45	7,419	...	...	...	...	2	3	4,500	...	130	...	...	...	111,216	...
Edgecumbe	...	...	...	...	103	75	...	...	...	347,482	...	...	339	...	...	..	...	...	5	5,933	36,511	...	8	15,056	2	...	672	...	...	...	...	...	4,000	...
Port Curtis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	599	45,213	...	120	630	...	...	17	...	...	...	23,661	670	...	12	309	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	...	...
Burnett and Wide Bay ...	...	50	2	...	...	118	151	...	1,046	101,628	...	...	1,371	...	38	502	...	4,861	...	13,479	800	160	210	284	177	...	3,330	...	20	...	...	163	1,800	Nil
Moreton	...	1,374	10	...	...	1,014	41	16,174	13,365	20,685	5,737	800	13,684	755	1.000	5,251	...	181,165	6,263	66,628	60,211	472	5,995	15,129	969	...	138,687	...	...	16	...	1,579	...	...
Downs	8	17,573	3,171	191	...	...	178	...	4,442	...	...	...	10,418	1,159	56	6,457	1,601	1,500	53	41,821	2,130	2,604	8	3,714	45	...	10,960	191,894	...	...	467	102	13,200	...
Maranoa	...	...	42	...	...	...	...	...	288	...	...	...	318	...	...	44	...	...	...	500	...	186	...	112	22	...	...	720	...	...	...	40	...	...
Other Districts	...	...	...	...	5,080	...	...	...	2,660	116,419	...	...	675	...	...	...	...	...	...	19,135	817	189	...	278	12	70	800	...	...	4	...	...	43,122	Nil
Total Produce ...	8	19,162	3,225	191	6,858	1,207	370	16,174	26,296	861,592	5,737	920	27,834	1,914	1,094	12,286	1,601	187,526	6,366	178,576	101,139	3,611	6,233	34,882	1,245	73	158,949	192,614	150	20	467	1,914	173,338	Nil

Table No. XII.

RETURN showing the TOTAL EXTENT of LAND CULTIVATED for HAY, together with the YIELD of HAY, and the average yield per ACRE in each of the several PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS of the STATE during the YEAR 1904.

HAY.

PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS.	Wheat.		Oats.		Lucerne.		Other.		Total.	
	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.
Allora	34	38	52	62	2,051	1,887	...	...	2,137	1,987
Beaudesert	2	3	194	462	689	2,638	7	12	892	3,115
Brisbane	...	...	257	460	236	675	17	38	510	1,173
Clifton	45	57	955	958	3,910	3,587	35	28	4,945	4,630
Dalby	192	235	307	261	140	142	121	182	760	820
Dugandan	3	6	57	86	698	1,838	63	117	821	2,047
Gatton	137	206	476	667	3,692	9,762	212	372	4,517	11,007
Gympie	11	10	583	504	240	544	28	47	862	1,105
Harrisville	6	11	234	330	914	1,822	96	156	1,250	2,319
Highfields	130	152	53	57	739	1,073	10	11	932	1,293
Ipswich	5	10	172	246	728	2,415	35	56	940	2,727
Killarney	...	...	...	...	583	1,186	2	5	585	1,191
Laidley	37	63	94	109	3,381	9,849	58	75	3,570	10,096
Maryborough	...	...	344	576	109	346	88	150	541	1,072
Nanango	35	29	167	220	294	658	14	20	510	927
Rockhampton	47	24	1,111	562	482	807	206	274	1,846	1,667
Rosewood	12	25	127	311	577	1,399	36	51	752	1,786
South Brisbane	...	...	405	598	261	927	58	222	724	1,747
Toowoomba	608	832	1,237	1,650	7,662	7,847	83	183	9,590	10,512
Warwick	123	151	319	675	5,629	8,748	29	57	6,100	9,631
All other Districts	1,710	1,756	1,932	2,755	1,994	4,820	320	479	5,956	9,810
Grand Total for 1904	3,137	3,608	9,076	11,549	35,009	62,970	1,518	2,535	48,740	80,662
Grand Total for 1903	6,189	10,665	19,523	32,910	49,501	86,664	3,180	5,878	78,393	136,117
Increase in 1904	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Decrease in 1904	3,052	7,057	10,447	21,361	14,492	23,694	1,662	3,343	29,653	55,455
Average Yield per Acre	1·15		1·27		1·79		1·67		1·65	

Table No. XIII.

RETURN showing the TOTAL EXTENT of LAND CULTIVATED for GREEN CROPS in each of the several PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS of the STATE during the YEAR 1904.

PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS.	GREEN CROPS.				
	Wheat.	Oats.	Lucerne.	Other.	Total of all Kinds.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Allora	149	10	580	1,086	1,825
Brisbane	12	204	285	553	1,054
Dalby	172	33	763	451	1,419
Gatton	212	121	902	1,142	2,377
Harrisville	64	298	821	434	1,617
Ipswich	75	200	458	434	1,167
Marburg	84	240	301	1,855	2,480
Rosewood	83	406	1,132	1,201	2,822
Toowoomba	598	410	6,102	2,187	9,297
Warwick	44	16	1,435	274	1,769
All other Districts	513	1,416	3,245	4,860	10,034
Grand Total for 1904	2,006	3,354	16,024	14,477	35,861
Grand Total for 1903	543	1,897	7,265	16,871	26,576
Increase in 1904	1,463	1,457	8,759	...	9,285
Decrease in 1904	...	...	...	2,394	...

Table No. XIV.

AVERAGE YIELD PER ACRE OF CROPS IN EACH DIVISION OF THE STATE FOR THE YEAR 1904.

Division.	GRAIN CROPS.							POTATOES.		Sugar-cane (to Acres Crushed)	Cotton.	Arrow-root (Tuber).	Tobacco (Dried Leaf.)	Coffee.	Pump-kins and Melons.	Hay of all Kinds.	Grapes.	Bananas.	Pine-apples.	Oranges.
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley, Malting.	Barley, Other.	Maize.	Rice.	Rye.	English.	Sweet.											
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Lb.	Tons.	Cwt.	Lb.	Tons.	Tons.	Lb.	Bunches.	Dozen.	Dozen.
Rockingham	...	...	...	...	31·25	25·89	...	2·04	5·80	15·42	1,120	10·27	...	360	1·88	2·10	4,330	353	382	738
Edgecumbe	...	...	...	...	15·60	40·00	...	2·99	4·60	15·76	...	...	...	615	2·70	1·33	2,574	255	114	914
Port Curtis	30·00	...	...	...	27·20	...	6·00	2·27	4·32	3·75	500	...	...	187	2·90	0·94	1,707	22	174	725
Burnett and Wide Bay	9·71	17·33	2·40	18·00	24·83	...	20·00	2·19	4·91	17·16	773	...	...	672	3·19	1·77	1,805	116	274	958
Moreton	15·15	29·57	20·47	22·90	21·30	20·00	11·90	1·91	4·97	14·04	...	9·31	...	742	3·65	2·51	1,901	157	251	956
Downs	16·22	23·56	19·33	17·51	16·91	...	12·20	1·78	1·83	...	600	...	9·09	...	2·87	1·21	2,069	...	...	815
Maranoa	8·78	4·75	10·63	11·67	11·76	...	3·20	1·32	2·25	...	...	...	...	...	1·62	1·21	1,471	...	...	897
Other Districts	10·72	...	...	...	12·32	50·00	...	1·77	2·04	...	392	1·00	...	...	3·08	0·78	2,410	106	170	906
TOTAL AVERAGE YIELD FOR 1904	14·24	23·54	1 ·27	17·62	21·34	27·30	11·45	1·97	4·70	16·04	861	9·37	9·09	454	3·44	1·65	1,875	296	255	908
,, ,, ,, 1903	17·65	25·18	22·81	20·95	14·45	26·98	20·58	2·62	4·39	13·65	750	13·04	0·80	265	3·30	1·74	1,590	169	228	711

By Authority: GEORGE ARTHUR VAUGHAN, Government Printer, William street, Brisbane.